アデカン7
尚月地
Tsukuchi NAO presents
幽世里
大漁屋

昭和59年7月3日第三種郵便物認可　平成25年2月1日発行（奇数月1日発行）第33巻第1号（通巻349号）

大人ガールのための、ドラマティック✦ロマンティック♥マガジン!!

Wings ウィングス

cover illust
尚 月地
偶数月28日発売
特別定価650円
2013
2
February

30th Anniversary

30周年記念企画!! 色紙プレゼント実施中!!

poster
尚 月地
×
峰倉かずや

希望者みんなもらえる！描き下ろしペーパー
石原あやね

巻頭カラー!!

尚 月地「艶漢」

アフレコレポも!

キタコレ☆"尚 月地"祭り、またまた降臨!!!

特別付録
ミニドラマCD
尚 月地「艶漢」
CAST
福山 潤／前野智昭／櫻井孝宏／佐藤拓也

カラーつき!! お待ちかね・再登場!!

みもり「クラヤミに響け笑い声」

カラーつき!! 最終章突入!!

前田とも「結晶物語」

（原作・前田 栄）

好評連載!
トジツキハジメ
坂木 司
×藤たまき
那州雪絵
碧也ぴんく
かわい千草
なるしまゆり
石京あやね

エッセイ&ギャグ&コメディ!
荒川 弘
池田 乾
金色スイス
ホームラン・拳
松永 冴

最終回!!
ミキマキ
カラスヤサトシ
久世番子
カトリーヌあやこ
あおいれびん
堀江蟹子
菅野 彰
×南野ましろ

読み切り
りさり

アデルと九人の悪魔

第十九の話
彼の深層を覗けば
【中篇】
●かれのしんそうをのぞけば

The nineteenth story
WHEN I PEEK INTO HIS DEPTHS
Part.2

みんな、気をつけて！
これはちょっとまたまたなにやら
どピンチなことになっちゃったりなんか
しちゃいそうですヨ！

尚月地
nah tsukiji

艶師

絶好調☆メロドラマ的悦楽主義！

キター！？

早春峻烈巻頭カラー

尚月地祭り的
発売連発!!!!!!!!

2013年1月下旬発売
『艶漢❻』

2013年2月28日発売
ドラマCD『艶漢 2』

◆好評既刊◆
艶漢❶～❻／金色騎士
尚月地イラスト集 ノスタルチア
尚月地第二画集 極彩少年

※ドラマCDの詳細は裏表紙をご覧ください。

If you ask me what I want---
It would be...

尚月地

Tsukyi NAO presents /

absolute power.

AND I'M SHIRO-KUN'S FRIEND.

MY NAME IS SAKURA HARU-ZUMI.

I'M YAMA-DA KOJI-RO...

ALSO A FRIEND OF SHI-RO-KUN'S.

NICE TO MEET YOU.

SHIRO-KUN'S ...!

IS THAT SO!

SHIRO-KUN! THOSE INJURIES...!!

NICE TO MEET YOU, TO--

TERRIBLE!! THIS IS JUST TERRIBLE...!!

WHY ...!!

SHIRO-KUN!!

AHH... ACTUALLY, THESE ARE...

The next day...

Umbrella shop

SAKURA-SAN...

...IN THE END, BOTH OF US SPENT THE NIGHT WITHOUT SLEEPING A WINK, HUH.

clatter

clatter

chirp chirp

HERE, I'VE POURED SOME TEA.

YES. BUT IT WILL BE BAD IF WE DON'T CALM DOWN A LITTLE...

AH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

YES... I'M WORRIED ABOUT SHIRO-KUN AND COULDN'T SLEEP AT ALL...

IT'S THE SAME FOR YOU TOO, RIGHT?

HE TOTALLY PISSED ME OFF!!

He seems like a nice person... He's well-mannered and cares for his friends, too.

YOU'RE WEL-COME.

smile

BEING SO CRUEL TO HIS NIIYA--SHIRO REALLY IS THE WORST YOUNGER BROTHER EVER!

SHUT UP.

ANRI... WON'T YOU STOP IT ALREADY.

DON'T BRING YOUR COMMON SENSE FROM THE PERVERTED WORLD OVER TO REALITY.

I DON'T CARE!!

THINGS LIKE STEPPING, KICKING AND TORTURING ARE COMMON!

BEING THE YOUNGER BROTHER MEANS LOVING THE ELDER BROTHER!

He said that and recklessly headed straight to a place like this...

Ahahaha

NOW THAT I'M WEARING MY HORSE-RIDING UNIFORM, I SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE RIDING SOME LADIES (LOL)!

Kyaa

Kyaa

Anri, that bastard... Right after he came back, he changed into his plane-piloting uniform (actually a horse-riding uniform)...

THAT'S SO WEIRD.

WHAT~? YOU WANT TO BE BULLIED BY YOUR BROTHER, MISTER?

LIKE PAINFUL THINGS.

YEAH... I...

HEY.

pull

WON'T YOU... BULLY ME?

...AM I WEIRD?

SHIVER

GEEZ ...

NO WAY ...

sit up

Kya!

THUD

HEY.

PULL

STRIP ME.

shiver

NO...

N...

...YOU DON'T WANNA?

squeeze

SERI-OUSLY... HE'S A LOST CASE.

HEY, I WANT TO DO IT TOO!

ME TOO!

SLOMP

I WANT TO!

NO!!

I'D LOVE TO, MIS-TER!

YES. SHIRO-KUN HAS THE LOOKS, RIGHT? HE'S ALWAYS BEEN VERY POPULAR.

AHH~ I SEE...

BUT, HAS IT ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT FROM A LONG TIME AGO?

SERI-OUSLY.

THIS GUY IS HOPE-LESS.

THOUGH THAT'S WHAT MAKES HIM SENSUAL AND CHARMING.

HE STANDS ALOOF FROM THE WORLD THAT IT'S DIFFICULT TO GET A GRASP OF HIS FEELINGS.

BUT SHIRO-KUN IS NOT JUST ABOUT LOOKS.

ME, I... KNOW NOTHING ABOUT SHIRO-KUN...

...I'M JE-ALOUS.

YES, I DO KNOW HIM QUITE WELL.

SAKURA-SAN, YOU SEEM TO HAVE KNOWN SHIRO-KUN QUITE WELL.

LOOK A LITTLE DEEPER INTO HIS HEART.

I AM PLAN-NING TO

BUT..

IS THAT SO...

SIGH

SHIRO-KUN!!

szuirm...

HH NNN...

HNNN ...

grimace

I'M GLAD YOU WOKE UP.

OFF-CER?

THANK GOOD-NESS! YOU'RE FINALLY AWAKE!

!!

IT'S BEEN AWHILE, SHIRO-KUN.

WHOOSH

...

HARU-ZUMI-SAN...

squeeze

HARU-ZUMI-SAN!!

YEAH.

I'M JUST AS HAPPY AS YOU ARE.

YOU CAME ALL THE WAY HERE JUST TO SEE ME, RIGHT?

I'M SO HAPPY !!

I'M SORRY, OFFICER, BUT WOULD YOU MIND LEAVING FOR TODAY, PLEASE?

AH, NO...

HARU-ZUMI-SAN, I HAVE SOMETHING TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT!!

..

rattle rattle SHUT

ALSO, I'M GLAD YOU GOT TO MEET YOUR OLD FRIEND

PLEASE TAKE CARE, SHIRO-KUN.

I'LL BE TAKING MY LEAVE THEN.

...

...

IS YOUR FRIEND THAT IMPORTANT, SHIRO?

FOR YOU TO HUG AN ENEMY LIKE ME...

THE ELDEST SWORN BROTHER OF THE NORTHERN TROOP LEADER.

SAKURA HARUZUMI.

NO. I REMEMBER YOU JUST FINE.

OR IS IT THAT YOU'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT ME?

YOUR PERSONALITY AND FAMILY BACKGROUND ARE BOTH FLAWLESS.

PLUS, YOU'RE THE ELDEST SON FROM ONE OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED FAMILIES IN THE ORGANIZATION.

YOU RECEIVE A LOT OF SUPPORT FROM THE NORTHERN CITIZENS DUE TO YOUR GENTLE MANNER AND PERSONALITY.

CONTRARY TO THE NORTHERN TROOP LEADER'S BRUTAL PERSONALITY.

BESIDES, FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD..

YOU'RE DEFINITELY A PERSON NOT TO BE TRUSTED.

THAT'S JUST YOU ON THE SURFACE.

YOU DO KNOW ME QUITE WE...

YES.

QUITE A UNIQUE HAREM YOU HAVE HIDING THERE, HUH.

YOU CONFINED ONLY WOMEN WHO ARE HALFLINGS.

...IS THAT REALLY SO?

I'M A FEMINIST. I'M ONLY PROTECTING THE HALFLING WOMEN WHO ARE NOT RECEIVING DECENT TREATMENT FROM THE OTHERS.

...

I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD REFRAIN FROM COMMENTING ON OTHERS' INTERESTS.

YOU'RE ACTUALLY...

THE WAY I SEE IT,

DASH

SWING

dodge

DROW

SWOOSH

JUMP

JUMP

!!

SFX: RUNNING

GRAB

GRAB

RUNNING AWAY IS USELESS ...

YOU CAN'T EVEN MOVE AROUND WELL NOW, CAN YOU?

SCREECH

step

step

STOP HIDING AND SURRENDER OBEDIENTLY

MY MY, I MIGHT BE LUCKIER THAN I EXPECTED!

CLICK

CLICK

YOU'RE INJURED, RIGHT?

HMMM, YOU EVEN WENT ALL THE WAY TO WEAR YOUR BATTLE OUTFIT.

IT'S AN HO-NOR

WELL THEN, ALLOW ME TO ANSWER YOU WITH SINCERITY BY USING MY WHIP.

slide

I WON'T RUN AWAY.

SFX: WHOOSH

WHACK

jump

throw

SFX: EVADE

...As I thought.

That's granted, considering he left the Organization two years ago.

SFX: SWING

the truth remains that Shiro's skills have regressed.

Even ruling out the fact that he's injured,

!!

SWOOSH

SLAP

SFX: OPEN

!?

MY WHIP IS NO ORDI-NARY WHIP.

SNICKER

SFX: SLIDE

AW

SFX: CLANK

UGH!

SFX: CLINK

!!

fwoosh

SFX: THROW

Che!

. . !!

AKITO!

LET'S STOP IT RIGHT HERE, BOTH OF YOU.

YOU ARE?

YOU SURE LOOK LIKE SOME YOUNG MASTER FROM THE NOBLES OF THE NORTH SIDE.

AHH... SO THAT'S WHO YOU ARE.

THE NORTHERN TROOP LEADER'S SECOND BLOOD BROTHER.

UCHIUMI AKITO.

HARUZUMI HERE TOO, IS JUST LIKE ME.

I'M DIFFERENT FROM A FORMER HALFLING LIKE YOU.

EXACTLY.

AH!

HEY, WAIT! IT'S FUTILE!

I FEEL VERY HONORED.

SWISH

SINCE MEN AS GREAT AS YOU TWO ARE CHASING AFTER AND TREATING ME, A FORMER HAFLING, AS YOUR ENEMY. .

先生にファンレターを書こう！

YOU DO UNDERSTAND THAT IT'S USELESS, RIGHT?

NI-SAMA IS SOMEONE WHO DOES THINGS THOROUGHLY.

AS AKITO SAID, LET'S STOP THIS, SHIRO.

!!

YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN SURROUNDED!!

THIS BUILDING HAS BEEN COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY THE NORTHERN TROOP'S ARMY.

...!!

BESIDES,

YOUR FRIEND, THAT OFFICER.

A FEW OF MY UNDERLINGS ARE TAILING HIM.

あて先
〒113 0024 東京都文京区西片2 19 18 新書館 ウィングス編集部気付
尚月地先生

...!!

ENO-UGH!!

SHOCK

THE MOMENT I LIGHT THIS SIGNAL FIRE

THE OFFICER'S LIFE WILL BE...

...THANK YOU.

DO WHATEVER YOU WANT WITH ME.

...I'LL GIVE MYSELF UP.

Clatter

Clatter

...AL-RIGHT THEN, AKITO.

LET'S STRIP SHIRO AND TIE HIM UP

NO, SHIRO HAS SURREN-DERED. THE ARMY CAN HOLD THEIR CURRENT POSITION.

AKITO-SAMA, DO YOU NEED ANY BACKING UP?

SO IT'S BEST IF WE STRIP HIM NAKED.

YOU CAN NEVER TELL WHERE ANK.-USERS HIDE THEIR WEAPONS.

HUH? IT'S FINE AS LONG AS HE THROWS AWAY HIS WEAPONS, RIGHT? THERE'S NO NEED FOR HIM TO GET NAKED.

Ankl: hidden weapons

slip

slide

chink

RE-ALLY.

FINE ...

IS HE?

HOW DO I SAY THIS? HE'S.. POISON TO THE EYES.

I'VE HEARD RUMORS ABOUT HIM, BUT...

squeeze

tighten

LET'S HURRY AND BIND HIM.

OH!!

SORRY!

JOLT

AH!

choke

....

.'ES.

THE SKILLS TO DECEIVE AND SEDUCE PEOPLE MUST BE WHAT HE INHERITED FROM ANRI.

SHIRO IS *THAT* ANRI'S BLOOD BROTHER.

T-THAT'S NOT IT!! I WAS JUST TAKEN ABACK BY THIS GUY'S WEIRD ATMOSPHERE IS ALL!

...COME ON, AKITO. YOU CAN'T BE SE-DUCED BY SHIRO.

AND FIRST OF ALL, HE'S A HALFLING--

I'M A MAN, YOU KNOW.

THERE'S NO WAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT WOULD WORK ON ME!!

chuckle

THE SKILLS OF SEDUCTION THAT I INHERITED FROM NIIYA?

THEN, SHALL I SHOW YOU

...!!!

!!!

CHOMP

Eek!

COME ON.

IDIOT.

I WAS ONLY JOKING.

OUCH!!

YOU-

Y...

SFX: PUNCH

BAS-TARD!!

UH!

P&%

YOU MAKE ME SICK.

CALM DOWN, AKITO!!

SMACK

PUNCH

HOW DARE YOU MAKE FUN OF ME! YOU'RE JUST A HALF-LING!!

COUGH

SPUT

. . .YEAH.

THE CAR HAS BEEN PRE-PARED FOR US OUTSIDE.

HURRY, LET'S MOVE HIM.

HE'S TIED UP, THOUGH. IT'LL BE FINE.

DO YOU THINK IT'S GONNA BE OKAY? PUTTING SHIRO IN A CHEST LIKE THAT.

VROOM

SAYING 'SUCH IS NOT THE WAY OF A GENTLEMAN!', YOU LET SHIRO PUT ON SOME CLOTHES.

BUT AKITO, YOUR NOBLE SPIRIT IS REALLY STRONG, HUH.

THERE WON'T BE ANY INTER-FERENCE.

WE'VE TAKEN ROADS WHICH ARE RARELY PASSED BY PEOPLE. .

Obi: belt

That one's no good!!

If we're going with that color it has to be this obi!

AND GOT ALL HYPED UP TYING THE OBI WITH EMBROI-DERIES ON?

BESIDES, WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO SAID 'IF WE'RE GOING TO CLOTHE HIM ANYWAY, WE MIGHT AS WELL MAKE THE APPEAR-ANCE LOOK GOOD' ..

I JUST DISLIKE THINGS WITH NO SENSE OF BEAUTY

THAT'S JUST HOW IT IS.

NOBLES DON'T STRIP A CAPTURED PREY NAKED AND TAKE THEM AWAY.

YEAH, SINCE THE FIRST TIME WE MET.

YOU THINK SO?

MORE LIKE, YOU'RE A LOT BETTER THAN THOSE NOBLES.

.BUT AKITO HAS ALWAYS BEEN GENTLE

HARU-ZUMI-SAMA.

HE'S THE ELDEST SON OF THE SAKURA FAMILY,

TRY GREET-ING HIM

LOOK, AK TO-SAN.

...I WON-DER.

HE RECO-VERED RECENT-LY

AND IS ABLE TO COME OUT NOW

DUE TO HIS SICKNESS. HARUZUMI-SAMA HAS BEEN RESTING IN HIS ROOM EVERSINCE HE WAS A CHILD

D- DON'T BE RUDE!!

MOTHER, WAS THERE SOMEONE LIKE THAT?

His mother has been staying with him in the room, nursing him.

Among us nobles, there is a child of fine family who has been suffering from illness since he was a small kid.

...That's right, I remember now

HMM.

left the room.

She has never...

I'M SAKURA HARUZUMI NICE TO MEET YOU

Because I am to be a gentleman.

NICE TO MEET YOU. I'M UCHIUMI AKITO

If that's how it is, then I have to be kind to him.

lift

OKAY

SU-RE!

WILL YOU TEACH ME ABOUT IT?

I DON'T REALLY KNOW MUCH ABOUT BEING A NOBLE

AKITO-KUN. I HAVE ONLY BEEN IN MY ROOM ALL THIS TIME, SO.

DURING THAT TIME, YOU HONESTLY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ANY-THING AT ALL.

AT ANY RATE... IT FEELS QUITE UN-NATURAL, THINKING ABOUT IT NOW

TROOM

AT THAT TIME, I FELT LIKE I HAD A LITTLE BROTHER AND WAS VERY HAPPY.

...

IT'S ALL BECAUSE MY MOTHER IS QUITE UNUSUAL.

FROM MANNERS OF DINING TO NOBLES' JARGON.

I THINK I TAUGHT YOU EVERY-THING FROM STEP ONE.

YOU LEARNED THEM AS QUICK AS A SPONGE ABSORBS WATER.

YOU REMEMBERED EVERYTHING QUICKLY NO MATTER WHAT YOU WERE LEARNING.

I MEAN

BUT MY OPINION TOWARD YOU CHANGED GREATLY AFTER THAT.

AND SOON, DIDN'T YOU BECOME THE BEST PRODIGY AMONG ALL SONS OF THE NOBLES?

THAT'S WHY I HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR YOU.

YOU'RE A GUY WITH A SHARP MIND AND IS ALWAYS ABLE TO ANALYZE THINGS CALMLY.

I KNOW YOU ARE DIFFERENT.

YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND WHO UNDERSTANDS ME THE MOST.

THANK YOU, AKITO.

I will be handed over to the Northern troop leader before anything else.

If I go back to the Organi-zation like this,

RUMBLE RUMBLE

They are rather close to each other...

WHAT ARE YOU BEING ALL FORMAL FOR?

Mahana

I will become the clan leader's husband.

If that happens...

And after they make me exchange the vows to be blood brothers with the Northern troop leader...

If I don't do something...

Not only me...

But this country too...

My mind seems to be working better now

By the way...

Must be because I threw up all the alcohol when I got beaten up just now...

Oh, right...

If I don't do anything...

Something

Now that my senses are back, there might be something that I can do...

something really strange about this...

And that is....

I've been noticing...

Nah...

!!

BAM BAM

It's all clear to me now-- there's no mistaken it!

...I knew it!

A FRIEND THAT HE CARES FOR IS NOW A HOSTAGE OF MINE.

SHIRO WON'T ESCAPE.

GO AHEAD

SHOULD I OPEN IT?

...HE'S MAKING A RUCK-US IN THERE.

!!

SFX: KICK

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

creak

rustle

TEAR

SHI-RO!!

SIT UP

THE EMBROI-DERY OF HIS OBI!

fall

VIP

cut

PART OF THE IT WAS MADE OF SOME THIN METAL!

slash

!!

THERE WERE NO OTHER TROOP MEMBERS AT ALL, RIGHT?

YOU GUYS TRICKED ME.

SINCE THE BEGINNING, THERE WERE ONLY THE THREE OF YOU.

THERE WAS NEITHER ANY PRESENCE NOR SCENTS OF OTHER PEOPLE BESIDES YOU GUYS.

I'M TROUBLED BY THE FACT THAT YOU GUYS ARE TAKING ME TOO LIGHTLY.

AT FIRST, MY SENSES WERE NUMBED BECAUSE I WAS DRUNK, BUT ORIGI-NALLY MY FIVE SENSES ARE DIFFERENT FROM NORMAL PEOPLE.

a lie.

Yes.
So things like Officer-san being followed must also be...

IN ORDER TO CAPTURE ME, I WOULD HAVE EXPECTED HIM TO LAUNCH AN ARMY OF THOUSANDS.

LIKE YOU SAID, THE NORTHERN TROOP LEADER IS A PERSON WHO DOES THINGS THOROUGHLY.

WHY ARE THERE ONLY THE THREE OF YOU? WHAT'S GOING ON?

WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND IS. .

SKIP

STILL, I CAN'T IMAGINE YOU GUYS TAKING ACTIONS ON YOUR OWN WHILE HIDING IT FROM THE NORTHERN TROOP LEADER.

THE NORTHERN TROOP LEADER WOULD NEVER ALLOW HIS UNDERLINGS TO WORK INDEPENDENTLY. IT'S A DEATH SENTENCE IF HE FINDS OUT.

SFX: PUNCTURE

!?

lift

THE ANSWER TO THAT IS SIMPLE.

AAAH!

SLICE

HANDING YOU OVER TO NII-SAMA WOULD BE

SUCH A WASTE.

pant pant

SECURING YOU IS VERY IMPORTANT

BUT, IF WE BRING YOU BACK WITH US, WE'LL BE STRONGER THAN NII-SAMA, SO THAT WON'T BE A PROBLEM.

JUST AS YOU SAID, IF WE GET BUSTED, WE'LL BE DEAD.

THAT'S WHY WE KEPT IT SECRET FROM NII-SAMA AND CAME HERE.

ALSO... SHIRO, I'M SORRY FOR BEING SO SUDDEN, BUT...

I'M GLAD WE RECON-STRUCTED THE BACK SEATS JUST IN CASE.

!!

STAB

LET ME DISMANTLE YOU FOR JUST A LITTLE.

BECAUSE YOU'VE FOUND OUT ABOUT THE TRUTH

YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE BUT TO MAKE YOU MINE AT THIS VERY MOMENT.

AKIZUMI

YES, SINCE IT TURNED OUT THIS WAY, I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO DO IT NOW, RIGHT?

AKIZUMI, ARE YOU PLANNING TO START THE MERGING!?

N-

NO!

AL-RIGHT.

AKITO, HOLD HIM THERE, I'LL DO IT IN ONE GO.

M-MER-GING ...!?

AKIZUMI

LOVE SCANLATIONS
DEVIL CASTLE rows
VARE cleaner
YUKI-P translator
proofreader
MONN typesetter
MONN quality checker

The nineteenth story

WHEN I PEEK INTO HIS DEPTHS

Part 3

AAARH

slice

slice

AAARGH

Uhm!!

HIS ARM WILL BE CUT OFF SOON.

Uhh!!

YEAH.

GOTCHA.

SHUT HIM UP, AKITO.

Mm!!

stifle

..GANG-ING UP ON MY YOUNGER BRO-THER?

Ugh...

I can't...

I'm losing my...

JUST A LITTLE LONGER.

cons-cious-ness...

HEY.

NORTHERN TROUPE YOUNG MASTERS, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING .

!!

NII ..

NIIYA..

AN-
RI!!

ME?

WEL.., I CAME TO THIS TOWN OUT OF PURE COINCIDENCE. .

THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!

W- WHY ARE YOU HERE. .!?

I THOUGHT IT WAS PRETTY NOISY OUTSIDE, SO I TOOK A LOOK AND...

AND WENT TO THE HOUSE OF A GIRL I HOOKED UP WITH ALONG THE WAY.

Kya

Kyaa

PLAYED WITH THE GIRLS ALL NIGHT LONG..

GULP

SERI-OUSLY ...

EVEN WORSE, HE'S BEEN PIERCED BY SPEARS AND HIS ARM IS BEING MUTILATED.

FOUND SHIRO SURROUNDED BY THE YOUNG MASTERS OF THE NORTHERN TROUPE.

SHIRO.

YOU LOOK PATHETIC,

EH?

SFX: BANG

WHAT THE--

!!!

CHING

SFX: PIERCE

AAGH

AH

AAH

spurt

WHEEZE

Y...

Y... OU...

'CAUSE YOU MIGHT DIE FOR REAL

QUIT SPACING OUT

CLICK

CRACKLE

SLASH

SLIP

N- NO WAY!!

GRIP

SFX: RUN!

HE..

HE'S MOV-ING! BUT HOW!?

BAM ラムキ

SFX: RUNNING SWIFTLY

SHES

極上登録商標歌人

等請合

IT'S NOT SEXY AT ALL!!

SFX: BANG

THAT IS NOT HOW YOU RUN!!

SFX: BANG

YOU'RE MORE THAN THIS!

DON'T THINK YOU'RE GREAT JUST 'CAUSE YOU OUTRAN ME!!

SFX: BOOM!

.....!!

W- WHY IS HE SHOOTING SHIRO!?

TAP

SFX: BLAST

WHOOSH

サキ

AAP

RUN!

WHAT!?

WE'RE IN A BIND, AKITO.

...YEAH

THAT'S IT.

leap

CRACK

OUT

WHAM

WHOOF

YUP.

grit

grit

NOW
THIS
IS MY
"SHIRO".

Clatter!

This is bad.

The man...

Clatter!

BE QUICK! AKITO!!

from that time--

the true Shiro has

have returned!!

The "Yoshi-wara Brothers"

rustle

LOOK, THEY'RE GETTING AWAY, SHIRO.

WE HAVE NO TIME!!

AKI-TO!

CLICK

CLICK

I CAN'T START THE EN-GINE. !!

!

VROOM

CATCH

CATCH

drop

HERE.

drop

dash

SFX: SCREECH

SFX: SHOOM

SFX: SPEEDING UP

SFX: AWOOSH

UGH!!

SFX: CLASH

!!

HE'S HERE!!

STOMP STOMP STOMP

SUCH SPEED !!

PUSH

!!?

!!!

SFX: THWACK

!!

CRACK

HIT

WHOA!

LUNGE

SHIT!

SHING

CLANG

AKITO!! DRIVE AT FULL SPEED!!

CLANG

CLINK

CLANG

PUSH

HE'S...

WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL...

NO BUTS!! WHEN SHIRO'S WITH ANRI, HE'S NOT HUMAN ANYMORE!!

B-BUT, HARU-ZUMI!

PUSH

A TRANS-PARENT SWORD.

PUSH

Ahaha

If we fail to make our escape now...

we will have to face not only Shiro...

but also Anri!

AHAHA

CRACKLE

If we don't escape now...

we will die for sure!

We've enraged Anri

by hurting Shiro.

POP

CRACKLE

CRACKLE

WHOOSH

CHOKE

ACK!

WOOSH

!!

CLANG

HALT

SHIRO-KUN!!

RUN

...!!

..OFFI-CER..?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

..!!

SHOVE

SHIRO-KUN!!

DASH

VROOM

SFX: THUD

ドン

OFF-CER...

WHY ARE YOU...?

SHIRO-KUN!! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!!

WHY ARE YOU CO-VERED IN BLOOD!?

GET UP

RUN

I DECIDED TO FOLLOW THAT CAR AFTER IT LEFT YOUR SHOP.

YOU'VE BEEN ACTING STRANGE, SO...

WHY DID YOU THINK...

I WAS ACTING STRANGE?

I RAN AFTER THE CAR AND LOST SIGHT OF IT HALF-WAY.

WHEN I FINALLY CAUGHT UP, YOU WERE ALREADY IN THIS STATE...

WHO WOULD OPENLY HUG A FRIEND LIKE THAT.

YOU'RE NOT THE KIND OF PERSON...

UNDER-STAND WHAT'S INSIDE YOUR HEART, EVEN JUST FOR A BIT

I TRY TO. .

JUST

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED, IT'S FINE.

YOU'RE A MUCH MORE AWK-WARD GUY.

TAKE MY HAND, SHIRO-KUN.

YOU'RE SOME-WHERE FAR AWAY.

AND YET IT FEELS LIKE

YOU'RE RIGHT HERE ..

OFFI.

SHIRO-KUN.

SHIRO-KUN!!

SYX: BURST

HE FELL INTO A RELAXED STATE AND HIS WOUNDS JUST BURST OPEN.

AAAH. THIS IS ALL BECAUSE YOU TALKED TO HIM, KO-CHAN

catch

ANZU-KUN, YOU WERE HERE?

.....

NII-
YA..

LOOK
AT ME.

GOOD
BOY,
SHIRO.

NII.
YA.

IT'S
ALRIGHT
NOW,
SHIRO.

NIIYA IS
WITH
YOU.

sleep

YOU KNOW..

SHIRO CAN'T SURVIVE WITHOUT ME

IT'S OKAY THE BLEEDING HAS STOPPED.

SHI-RO-KUN!!

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT, KO-CHAN.

WHEN SHIRO IS NOT SHIRO, HE CAN'T ENDURE PAIN.

ANYWAY, JUST LEAVE SHIRO TO ME FOR NOW

W-WHAT DOES THAT MEAN!?

KO-CHAN?

FALL

UGH!!

KNOB

H- HEY! WAIT A MIN--

!!

ANRI-KUN..

AH.

UGH

UH...

STEAL FROM ME *AGAIN?*

ARE YOU GOING TO

AH..!

NO..!

gasp

HUH?

DON'T YOU THINK SOME-THING SIMILAR HAS HAP-PENED BEFORE?

IT'S JUST...

DON'T MIND ME.

IT'S NOTHING, SORRY.

BETWEEN YOU.... AND SHIRO-I... KUN...

IT WAS A LONG TIME AGO..

SOME-THING... LIKE THIS...

NO... I REMEMBER MY CHILD-HOOD VERY WELL... BUT...

YOU SURE YOUR MEMORY ISN'T PLAYING TRICKS ON YOU?

YOU MEAN WHEN WE WERE CHILDREN? BEATS ME

THE ANSWER TO THAT IS SOMETHING ONLY *YOU* CAN FIND OUT, KO-CHAN.

.....

FROM WHICH MY MEMORIES ARE FOGGY AND BLURRY...

THERE'S ONLY ONE PERIOD OF TIME

WHO CAN PEEK INTO YOUR OWN DEPTHS, KO-CHAN.

YOU ARE THE ONLY PERSON.

caress

EH?

BE CAREFUL.

BUT DON'T LET YOURSELF BE ENGROSSED IN PEEKING, AND END UP FALLING INTO THE DEPTHS.

.....

AHAHA!

WHAT TO DO NOW?

HARU-ZUMI..

VROOM

WE CAN'T RETURN TO THE ORGANI-ZATION.

NOT AFTER WE HAVE FAILED TO CATCH SHIRO.

WITHOUT SHIRO, WE CAN'T EXECUTE A COUP D'ETAT AGAINST NII-SAMA.

AFTER ALL, YOU CAN BE HIGHER THAN NII-SAMA *IF* YOU AND SHIRO UNITE.

NII-SAMA IS A MAN WHO MANAGES HIS SUB-ORDINATES THOROUGHLY

I'M SURE NII-SAMA HAS NOTICED THAT THE TWO OF US AND ONE OF MY MEN

HAVE LEFT THE ORGA-NIZATION WITHOUT HIS PERMIS-SION.

HOW SHOULD WE EXCUSE OUR-SELVES?

THE PENALTY FOR LEAVING THE ORGA-NIZATION WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE IS DEATH.

AND IF NII-SAMA FOUND OUT THAT WE WERE PLANNING TO SECRETLY CATCH SHIRO,

OUR FAMILIES WOULD BE KILLED AS WELL.

OR TURN INTO MONSTERS AS A RESULT OF THE FORBIDDEN ILLNESS.

WE'D EITHER DIE FROM RUNNING OUT OF RED GAUZE

THAT'D BE FUTILE.

INTO THIS BIG WORLD?

..SHOULD THE TWO OF US JUST FLEE..

I DON'T WANT TO BE INTERROGATED TO DEATH BY NII-SAMA EITHER.

I DON'T WANT TO BE TURNED INTO A MONSTER BY THE FORBIDDEN ILLNESS...

DIE WITH ME.

HEY.

AKITO.

LOVE SCANLATIONS
DEVIL CASTLE rows
LITOXPINKY cleaner
MONN translator
MONN typesetter
MONN quality checker

The nineteenth story

Part 4 WHEN I PEEK INTO HIS DEPTHS

AKITO.

.. DIE WITH ME

WE CAN RETURN TO THE ORGANIZATION OR PRESS ON, BUT WE WILL STILL DIE EITHER WAY.

...I'M BEING SERIOUS HERE

WHAT IS THIS NONSENSE, HARUZUMI?

WITH YOU, AKITO.

IF THAT IS OUR END

THEN I WISH TO DIE RIGHT HERE..

...LET'S COOL DOWN, HARU-ZUM..

WE SHOULD FIND A TEA HOUSE OR WHATEVER AND CALM OURSELVES DOWN.

AND? IT'S NOT A BAD PLACE TO BE!

...THIS IS THE BEST WE COULD FIND, HUH...

AYANO TEA HOUSE

IN THE OUTER WORLD LIKE THIS.

BESIDES, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO GO TO SHOPS FOR COMMON FOLKS

I LIKE THE OUTER WORLD!

THE GIRLS ARE SO LIVELY!

I SECOND THAT.

THEY'RE A BUNCH OF LOOK-ERS!

giggle

giggle

HEY, CHECK OUT THOSE TWO GUYS! THEY'RE SO HANDSOME!

!

THESE DANGO TASTE GOOD TOO!

YEAH.

T/N: Dango = Sweet dumpling

POKE

POKE

kshh

STOP IT, AKITO!

AND I SEE NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT! HERE, HAVE SOME!

shshh

THAT'S TOO MANY!

ALL RIGHT THEN! I'LL HAVE TWO MORE PLATES OF THESE!

...HARU-ZUMI

LET'S DIE TOGETHER.

SURE...

THANKS.

YEAH...

looks around

LET'S SEE

YOU'RE RIGHT! WHERE SHOULD WE START?

RUN

WE'LL BE DEAD SOON ANYWAY, SO WE'D BETTER HAVE TONS OF FUN TODAY, HARUZUM!!

AND THERE'S SO MUCH ENERGY HERE ...!!

IT'S JAM-PACKED!

SOUNDS GOOD!

I WANNA WATCH A PERFOR-MANCE IN THAT THEATER! A HORROR ONE!

Gekijo Theater

TIN PLATE

SPINNING TOP

OH, AKITO! LOOK!

A LINE OF STREET VENDORS!

I KNOW! THE BEGINNING OF THE SECOND SCENE WAS ALSO IMPRESSIVE!

YEAH, THAT ELABO-RATE SET UP, RIGHT?

GLAMOR

MAN, THAT WAS ONE HELL OF A PERFOR-MANCE! THAT LAST SCENE WAS ESPECIALLY GOOD!

BOW AND ARROW

WHY DON'T WE JUST TRY THEM OUT?

BLOWPIPE

TOYS

ALL OF THEM LOOK INTER-ESTING.

HEY AKITO!

CHECK IT OUT!

AAAH~ I HAD A BLAST!

THE LAST TIME I ENJOYED ANYTHING THIS MUCH WAS WHEN I WAS A BOY!

TOYS

SHAVED ICE

Yume saki

Market

Place

GREAT PIGEON

IT'S THE MARKET PLACE!

カメリア堂

道具屋

みくじはんだん
芸耳聞堂

●易占 ●人相手相

THESE ARE FRESH VEGGIES, TOO—NOT DRIED ONES!

HARUZUMI, LOOK! THEY'VE GOT HEAPS OF HIGH QUALITY VEGETABLES!

INCREDIBLE! I NEVER KNEW THE OUTER WORLD COULD HAVE A MARKET THIS HUGE!

IT IS WHY PEOPLE HERE CAN HARVEST ALL KINDS OF FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES.

AKITO, THE LAND AND WATER IN THE OUTER WORLD ARE CLEAN.

Sweet potato

Onion

Wild herb

AND THE QUANTITY OF FRESH FLOWERS THEY HAVE HERE IS JUST...!!

Radish

WHILE YOU, AKITO, RARELY HAD THE CHANCE TO GO OUTSIDE.

IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THIS.

I HAD TO OCCASI-ONALLY COME HERE AS I RAN ERRANDS FOR NI.-SAMA.

.....

REALLY ....?

Young greens Sweet fruits

IT'S NOT LIKE WHAT GROWS IN THE SOIL IS HIGH-QUALITY OR ANYTHING.

THE WIND, WATER, AND SOIL OF THE OUTER WORLD ARE PURE.

UN-BELIEV-ABLE!!

. .THIS IS NOTHING LIKE THE ORGANI-ZATION.

UN-BELIEV-ABLE..

I'VE BEEN TELLING YOU-- THIS HERE IS A MESS THAT YOU HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF!

CURE SHIRO!

THAT, I KNOW!

huff

huff

JUST WHAT IS THIS MESS ALL ABOUT!

SO WHY DID THAT HARUZUMI GUY HURT SHIRO THIS BADLY!?

SHIRO IS A PRECIOUS EXISTENCE!

SHIRO WOULD HAVE DIED.

'CAUSE IF I HADN'T DONE THAT...

OH, PLEASE! HOW COULD YOU BE SO STUPID!

I SHOT SHIRO TOO, THOUGH. .

PANT

PANT

SHIRO IS DYING!

THE PROBLEM REMAINS THAT

URGH! I'LL CHOOSE TO IGNORE THE STRANGE RELATION-SHIP BETWEEN YOU BROTHERS FOR NOW, BUT...

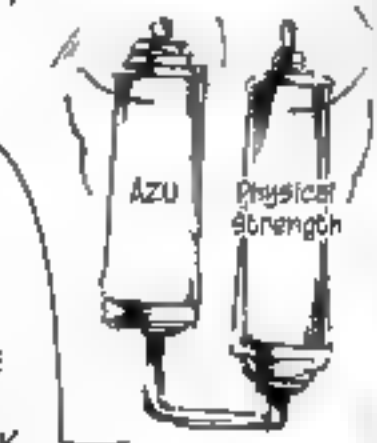
NOT TO MENTION THAT SHIRO'S "AZU" IS GETTING WEAKER.

HIS INJURY IS TOO SERIOUS AND LETHAL!

I DID MY PART STOP-PING HIS BLEED-ING AND BRING-ING HIM HERE!

WHICH IS WHY I'VE BEEN ASKING YOU TO DO A SURGERY ON HIM!!

T/N: The kanji for "Ha" means supremacy / domination



WHEN THE PATIENT'S AZU IS WEAK, I CAN'T PERFORM SURGERY ON THEM.

WE, THE *HA* TRIBE, LIVE NOT ONLY BY PHYSICAL STRENGTH, BUT ALSO AZU.

AZU? YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THE MENTAL STRENGTH, RIGHT?

WHAT DOES THAT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS?

SHIRO.

PANT PANT

SHIRO. I'M RIGHT HERE.

SHIRO.

lean

SHIRO..

IF THIS KEEPS UP HE WILL...

IT'S NO USE! YOUR VOICE WON'T REACH SHIRO'S AZU!

COUGH

!?

AN-RI!!

FSSSSH

FSSSSH

GRIP

CUT IT OUT!!

YOU DUMMY!!

SLAP

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!!

fssssh

PULL

YOU CAN'T BE SERI-OUS!

MUTSU-KUCHI! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU!?

I SAID STOP IT!!

SMACK

SMACK

STOP IT!! YOU'RE PUTTING TOO MUCH BURDEN ON YOUR BODY!

IT'S ONE OF THE ABILITIES OUR TRIBE POSSES-SES!

DEGE-NERA-TION?!

HE'S PLANNING TO DO "DEGENE-RATION"!

HEY!

fssssh

SIMPLY PUT HE WILL BE..

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ANR!?

BECAUSE IT CONSUMES A HUGE AMOUNT OF PHYSICAL STRENGTH.

ONLY A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE CAN ACTUALLY CARRY OUT THIS PROCESS

rustle

RESTORED TO YOUTH.

A- ANRI!! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE...!!

CALM DOWN! IT'S JUST TEMPORARY. HE'LL EVENTUALLY RETURN TO NORMAL!

But...

Anri's body was supposed to be very weak...

SHIRO.

creak

PULL

.....

...Nii... YA...

IT'S ME.

NIIYA.

SHIRO.

...Nii... YA...

YEAH.

IT'S ALRIGHT NOW, SHIRO.

CARE TO EXPLAIN WHY?

..SHIRO'S AZU IS GETTING BETTER.

squeeze

NIIYA..

BE-CAUSE THE ANRI FROM THAT TIME...

BY SHOWING SHIRO HIS YOUNGER SELF, ANRI HAS CURED SHIRO'S MENTAL CONDITION.

WAS..

THE ANRI THAT SHIRO LOVED.

SPURT.7

COUGH

I'LL PERFORM THE OPE-RATION WHILE IT'S POSSIBLE!

YANK

MOVE, ANRI!

I'LL START THE OPERA-TION RIGHT AWAY!

ENOUGH! SIT THERE AND BE GOOD!!

...What is this...

THE WHOLE PROCESS DID PLACE A GREAT BURDEN ON YOUR BODY!

COUGH COUGH

SEE!? YOU'RE SUCH AN IDIOT!

I feel like I just had...

a long, awful dream...

SHIRO.

...Huh?

What...

was I doing just now...?

I can't see

Niiya's face.

..Oh.

I re-mem-ber now.

SHIRO OOO!

SHIRO!

Nitya's airplane was completed.

SHI-RO!

WE'RE GOING!

'ES!

'es.

..leave the Orga niza tion...

and fly to a far-away land.

The two of us will ride the plane...

'ES!!

I have always wanted to do this...

OH, RIGHT! SHIRO, YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO HAVE A GREAT ADVENTURE IN A COUNTRY OF DESERT, RIGHT?

...to a country in our precious picture book.

NOW, WHERE SHOULD WE GO?

WE CAN GO TO THE JUNGLES IN THE SOUTH-ERN COUNT-RIES!

Always

Always

...DIS-
GUSTING
...

I'M
SLICING
HIM OPEN

AND
YET HE'S
SMILING.

I
WONDER

WHAT
KIND OF
DREAM
HE'S
HAVING.

...
WHAT A
PATHE-
TIC BOY.

LOOKS
LIKE THE
ANESTHESIA
IS WORKING
VERY WELL

NAH,
IT'S NOT
SUPPOSED
TO WORK
THIS WELL.

WE'VE HAD SO MUCH FUN, HAVEN'T WE!

IT'S ALREADY DUSK.

REALLY WIN AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF THE OUTER WORLD?

CAN WE, THE HA TRIBE...

YEAH.

THE LIVELINESS OF THE OUTER WORLD AWES ME.

ALL I KNOW IS THAT NIISAMA IS DETERMINED TO DO IT.

WHO KNOWS?

OUR TRIBE LIVED ON THE EDGE OF TOTAL ANNI-HILATION BY MEN OF THE OUTER WORLD.

FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS...

LIVING IN SILENCE, THEY MANAGED TO SURVIVE.

IT'S THE VERY REASON WHY THE ENTIRE TRIBE HID THEMSELVES DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS.

THAT WAY, THEY WOULDN'T BE EXPOSED TO MEN OF THE OUTER WORLD.

WAAAH

CONTROLLING PEOPLE THROUGH FEAR IS HIS ONLY STRONG POI—

...BUT I DON'T THINK HE CAN MAKE THAT DREAM COME TRUE.

NII-SAMA AND I SHARE THE SAME DREAM.

WE BOTH WANT TO TAKE REVENGE ON THE OUTER WORLD.

!!

WHAT DO YOU WANT?!

HEY, YOU GUYS. FIGHTING ISN'T NICE.

YOU'RE THE BAD ONE!

WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?!

WAAH

I KNOW YOU GUYS ARE BRILLIANT KIDS.

Hmph!

GRR

IF YOU DON'T TALK OVER THINGS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS,

YOUR BRAIN CELLS WILL ROT

Haruzumi's as smooth-tongued as ever.

OKAY I'M BEING NICE HERE, SO I'LL TELL YOU..

SO, WHAT'S CAUSING THE BRAWL?

haha!

EH?

I CAN SEE THAT YOU'RE ALL CLEVER.

But he will die...

because of me.

That's right Haruzumi is a smart man.

He can swiftly capture people's hearts

He's always been like that

RUN

...If only I didn't utter those words back then...!!

Yeah. It's all because of me...

CLENCH

WHAT!?

LISTEN! I JUST DISCOVERED SHIRO'S WHEREABOUTS FROM A MAN NAMED OTACHI!

AKITO!!

IN A HURRY, HARUZUMI?

I'M SURE HAZUKI-JO WILL BE HAPPY FOR YOU.

WITH THIS, YOU'LL SURELY BE PROMOTED!

THAT'S GREAT!

I'M ABOUT TO REPORT IT TO NI-SAMA!

T/N: The suffix "Jo" means Miss / unmarried woman

POP

NOW I KNOW I'LL BE ABLE TO MARRY HAZUKI-SAN AT MY BEST.

IT IS..

THE CEREMONY IS NEXT MONTH, ISN'T IT?

YOU THINK?

CLING

IT'S INDEED SOMETHING TO CELEB-RATE!

YOU'VE BEEN DATING HAZUKI-JO FOR HALF A YEAR ALREADY.

THANKS.

HA HA

SEEING AS YOU'RE CARRYING HER PHOTO AROUND, YOU MUST LOVE HER A LOT.

open

NII-SAMA. ACTU-ALLY..

COME IN.

NII-SAMA. PARDON ME FOR DISTURB-ING YOUR REST..

BUT I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.

!!?

HARU-ZUMI-SAMA...!!

COVER

HA—

YOU CAME AT THE RIGHT TIME, HARU-ZUMI.

I WAS GOING TO TELL YOU THIS.

HAZUKI-SAN...!!

.....!!!

MAKE YOUR WOMAN MY CONCUBINE.

I'VE DECIDED TO...

WHEN I TOLD HER THIS, HAZUKI AGREED AND CAME TO MY PLACE AFTER-WARD.

HAZUKI'S LINEAGE, PEDIGREE, APPEAR-ANCE, AND ABILITY. .

MAKE HER SUITABLE OF BE-COMING MY CONCU-BINE.

.....!!!

YOU DO KNOW THAT MY WIFE CAN'T HAVE KIDS, DON'T YOU?

M-MY APOLOGIES!!

Shudder

HARUZUMI-SA—

WHO TOLD YOU TO APOLOGIZE?

P-PLEASE FORGIVE ME!

YES

AM I RIGHT, HARUZUMI?

HARUZUMI IS MY YOUNGER SWORN BROTHER.

BEING USEFUL TO ME COMES WITH THAT TITLE.

I WAS SHOCKED SO I...!!

BOW

I— I'M SORRY, NII-SAMA!!

GASP

I CAN'T HEAR YOU, HARUZUMI.

rise

...YES..

STAND

!?

THAT CALLS FOR A PUNISH-MENT THEN.

UN-DRESS.

slip

slide

PUT YOUR HANDS ON THE WALL

WHOOSH

PRESS

YES.

WHIP LASH

AH...!!

Eck!

WHIP

.....!!!

VASH

ONE MORE WORD AND YOU'RE DEAD.

SILEN-CE, AKITO.

NII-SAMA!! I BEG YOU!

PLEASE HAVE MERCY ON HARUZUMI!

BOW

HAND HER OVER TO YOU, NII-SAMA!

WHIP

LASH

I WILL GLADLY

PLEASE FORGIVE ME!

WHIP

N— NII-SAMA!

I ADORE AND RESPECT ONLY YOU, NII-SAMA.

TRUST ME.

PLEASE TRUST ME...

NII-SAMA...

NII-SAMA...

IT IS YOU THAT I ADORE AND RESPECT MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE.

HE'S HEART-LESS! PERIOD!

NII-SAMA ...!!

THAT'S ENOUGH, AKITO..

NO IT'S NOT! I CAN'T STAND HIM ANYMORE!

ON TOP OF SNATCHING HAZUKI-JO FROM YOU, HE HAD THE NERVES TO PUNISH YOU!

I ALWAYS TELL YOU HOW I LOATHE NII-SAMA'S BRUTALITY.

W— WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, AKITO!!

LET'S KICK HIM DOWN, HARUZUMI!

WE WILL KIDNAP SHIRO!

NOT THAT AGAIN.

AND I'VE ALWAYS TOLD YOU THAT, HAVEN'T I!?

YOU'LL MAKE A MUCH BETTER LEADER FOR THE NORTHERN TROUPE.

HE'S A TYRANT WHO RULES OVER HIS SUBORDINATES AND PEOPLE THROUGH FEAR!

I KNOW YOU CAN LEAD THE HA TRIBE BETTER THAN NII-SAMA CAN EVER DO!

WITH YOUR WAY OF DOING THINGS,

I'M DEAD SERIOUS!

YOU'RE A SMART MAN!

YOU WILL NOT ONLY BE STRONGER THAN NII-SAMA...

BUT ALSO STAND AT THE TOP OF THIS ORGANIZATION!

IF WE SUCCEED...

YOU AND I WILL SNEAK OUT OF THE ORGANIZATION AND KIDNAP SHIRO!

HAH

AKITO!

...Right
It was I
who
invited
Haruzumi.

It was I
indeed...

OH .. IT'S NO-THING..

TURN

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE PALE!

...LOOK, THE SUN IS SETTING.

...
SHALL WE

PUT AN END TO THIS SOON?

unsheathe

TODAY WAS A LOT OF FUN.

pause

PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE I'M GOING TO DIE WITH YOU, AKITO.

IT'S A WOND-ROUS FEELING.

I DON'T FEEL ANY FEAR.

.....

HARU-ZUMI...

PLEASE *LIVE ON,* FOR ME...

YOU ARE MY HOPE...

AKITO...

.....

YOU ARE TO TELL Ni-SAMA WHAT I'M GOING TO SAY TO YOU ONCE WE'RE BACK AT THE ORGANI-ZATION.

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?

The North-Troupe

Troupe Leader's Man-sion

NII-SAMA, I'M SURE YOU ARE WELL AWARE THAT AKITO HAS ALWAYS FELT DISCONTENT ABOUT YOU.

AS HIS FRIEND, I DON'T WANT HIM TO MAKE A FOOL OF HIMSELF MORE THAN HE ALREADY HAS.

I KNEW I HAD TO PERSUADE HIM AND BRING HIM BACK.

I NOTICED THAT AKITO WAS PLOTTING A TREASON AGAINST YOU, SO I DECIDED TO INTER-ROGATE HIM.

HE MANAGED, HOWEVER, TO ESCAPE TO THE OUTER WORLD WITH HIS SUBORDINATE.

I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO PURSUE AND CATCH HIM.

AKITO...

IS HE TELLING THE TRUTH?

PRECI-SELY, SIR.

IS THAT WHY YOU AND AKITO WERE NOT AROUND DURING THE PAST FEW DAYS?

.....

Yes...

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

EXECUTE HIM

AND HIS ENTIRE FAMILY.

Rough Sketch:
Mutsukuchi's
battle outfit.

LOVE SCANLATIONS
DEVIL CASTLE rows
SELYA3BD cleaner
MONN translator
TWILIGHTKNIGHT'S proofreader
TSUCHII typesetter
MONN quality checker

WALK FAST-ER!!

JANGLE

JANGLE

CLANK

CLANK

EXACTLY! PLEASE SAY SOME-THING, DEAR BRO-THER—!!

AKITO!! YOU DIDN'T PLAN ANY REBELLION AGAINST THE ORGANIZATION, RIGHT!? THIS IS A FALSE ACCUSATION!!

...UGH... WHY DID THINGS TURN OUT THIS WAY....

AKITO, ARE YOU REALLY FINE WITH THIS!?

Part 5

The Nineteenth Story

SFX: CLANK

RUN

I HATE THIS! I DON'T WANT TO DIEEE!!

SFX: CLANK

Part 5

The Nineteenth Story

WHEN I PEEK INTO HIS DEPTHS

THIS ORGANIZATION CAN FINALLY GET SOMEWHERE, I'M FINE WITH THIS.

IF, BY SACRIFICING MY WHOLE FAMILY...

IT'S FINE, I'M A NOBLE.

THAT IS MY DEAREST WISH.

AND WITH YOUR WAY OF DOING THINGS, CHANGE IT INTO A PLACE SO AMAZING IT WILL BE ON PAR WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD!!

THAT'S WHY, HARUZUMI, YOU MUST STAND AT THE TOP OF THE ORGANIZATION SOMEDAY.

IT'LL BE JUST LIKE HOW I'VE MANIPULATED YOU.

...I UNDERSTAND.

I KNOW I CAN DO IT.

THE DAY NII-SAMA SNATCHED HAZUKI AWAY FROM ME AND WHIPPED ME...

I KNEW FOR SURE THAT IN YOUR MIND, YOU WERE THINKING OF SOMETHING ALONG THAT LINE.

SO I TOOK THE CHANCE AND WENT TO YOUR ROOM AFTER THAT.

...EH?

...WH

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, HARU-ZUMI?

IT'S BECAUSE I KNOW YOUR PERSO-NALITY ALL TOO WELL.

I PREDICTED EVERYTHING. YOUR PLAN TO CAPTURE SHIRO, AS WELL AS THE FACT THAT YOU'D BEAR THE CRIME FOR ME IN CASE THE PLAN FAILED.

ALWAYS HATED YOU.

AKITO.

YOU KNOW,

ACTU-ALLY, I HAVE...

I WAS RATHER UPSET ABOUT IT.

WHILE I, CAN NEVER HAVE THOSE QUALITIES EVEN IF I DIE AND BE RE-BORN.

YOU HAVE THE KIND-NESS AND NOBILITY THAT ONLY TRUE NOBLES HOLD.

YOU ARE LESS THAN I AM IN EVERY-THING, BUT

YOU COULD BE USE-FUL TO ME

AND DIE FOR MY SAKE.

AND SO...

I'VE BEEN WISHING THAT PER-HAPS, ONE DAY

AKITO.

...NOW, *THIS* IS MY WAY OF DOING THINGS,

...HEY

THAT'S A LIE, RIGHT?

HARU-ZUMI.

PLEASE TELL ME IT'S A LIE,

YEAH.

IT IS A LIE.

.....

YOU'RE MY ONLY BEST FRIEND.

I HAVE ALWAYS LIKED YOU, SO MUCH.

HARU-ZUMI...

.....

BAM

Creeak

RUMBLES

YOUR WAY OF DOING THI-NGS, HUH.

SO THAT IS ALSO...

THAT LAST PART IS THE TRUTH, AKITO.

YOU ARE...

...MY ONLY BEST FRIEND.

YET IT'S YOU WHOM I HATE THE MOST.

KO-JIRO...

ANRI *DID* TELL YOU THAT HE'LL GET SHIRO HEALED AND BRING HIM BACK, RIGHT!?

On board. Umbrella Shop

slides

HE DID SAY THAT!

IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE HE WAS LYING!

THEN WHY IS IT THAT WE'VE BEEN WAITING HERE FOR SO MANY DAYS, BUT HE HASN'T COME BACK YET!!

RISE

SHI-RO-KUN!

SHI-RO!

THANK GOD...!! SHIRO-KUN!!

SHIRO!! OI! CAN YOU HEAR ME!?

snickers

U...HH, MISS, ARE YOU A FRIEND OF SHIRO-KUN'S?

KO-CHAN. I'LL BE LEAVING SHIRO HERE WITH YOU FOR A LITTLE LONGER,

BUT I'LL COME TO PICK HIM UP AGAIN, OKAY?

LIKE WE HAD A CHOICE! IT WAS THIS OR MUTSU-KUCHI'S BATTLE UNIFORM.

SHINZO, THIS DRESS IS A BIT BIG!

rub

rub

BYE THEN.

HEY, W-WAIT!

STEP

STEP

WHEN IT COMES TO SHIRO-KUN, I HARDLY KNOW A THING...

...I DON'T KNOW.

WHO'S THAT GIRL?

SHE'S SUU PER CUTE!

is she a foreigner?

mutters

...DAMMIT... I REALLY WANT TO ASK HIM STRAIGHT OUT...

...What exactly is the darkness that Shiro-kun has been carrying...!?

If I forcefully try to find out about it...

...it feels like you will disappear...

N-NO! IT WAS NO-THING!!

HM?

I guess it's best to wait until Shiro-kun brings up the subject himself.

Northern group Leader's mansion

Everybody has some darkness in them, but...

...SHIRO-KUN...

STEP

STEP

...The darkness in me must be a thick one.

The answer would be...

If you asked me what I want...

ABSOLUTE POWER

Nii-sama.

Right now, the strongest person in this organization is

STEP STEP

For that I would even use my childhood friend.

I'd do anything.

I just can't wait to see

the-day when

Nii-sama submits to me.

that I've become more inhuman.

It's all thanks to him...

the stronger my ambition becomes.

The deeper my hatred for Nii-sama goes.

AH...

NII-SAMA...

YOU...

Well, I can give him as many of women like her as he wants.

He chose a woman like her just because of her family pedigree.

I ADORE.

MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE.

ARE THE ONLY ONE...

The assassin that I've released to kill Anri...

There is no need to rush. I'm the only one who knows about Shiro's location.

Be-sides...

I can get out of here.

If I kill Anri...

TREMBLE TREMBLE

I can't do it any more no use

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

It's use-less.

...should be starting to make his move soon.

...as soon as possible.

Quickly, quickly. I want Shiro...

And then, all that's left to do is catch Shiro.

LOVE SCANLATIONS
DEVIL CASTLE rows
LITOXPINKY cleaner
YURI-P translator
proofreader
LITOXPINKY typesetter
MONN quality checker

This page marks the start of this chapter.

※ここからは次のお話です。

短篇「ストップ！若林君」

Short story: Stop! Wakabayashi-kun!

looks around

...WHAT ABOUT ANRI-KUN?

HUH?

.....

THAT GUY ...

HE COULDN'T HAVE DONE "DEGE-NERA-TION"...

My hand...

It's big...

SQUEEZE

.....

WHAT'S THAT?

HUH?

Mutter

WHY DID HE DO THAT WHEN HE WAS GETTING WEAKER HIMSELF...

HE'S SO STUPID.

Shiro-kun still looks down.

It's been a while since that day, but...

...he just won't answer my questions, so I haven't been making much progress.

I want to become his strength, but

Perhaps something terrible happened to him...

YOU SAID YOU MADE SOME NEW OCEAN-THEMED PRODUCTS RECENTLY, DIDN'T YOU?

HOW ABOUT WE GO AND SELL SOME UMBRE-LLAS?

PLOP

OH RIGHT, SHIRO-KUN.

I should do something to change his mood!!

Barusan: a Japanese cockroach spray. The kids likened him to a cockroach.

WAAH

HEEEY!! CAN'T YOU GUYS KEEP THE TRUTH?!

Barusan

HE LOOKS LIKE THAT THING FROM BARU-SAN!!

NEW PRODUCT

WHAT THE HECK!! WEIRDO!

BIG CATCH

HERE!

TAKE THIS!

SMACK

SMACK

SMACK

'ES...

I'LL BE BACK SOON!

drag drag

WHY DON'T YOU HEAD BACK FIRST!?

OH! I'LL GO SHOP-PING FOR A BIT, SO

L-LET'S HEAD BACK, SHIRO-KUN!!

sweat

sweat

Crap... His mood got even worse!! Who would've guessed that we would run into a bunch of honest brats here!

Baru-san

LOOK! IT'S YOUR FAVORITE OHAGI FROM TSUBAKI SHOP!!

Pant Pant

I'M BACK!

SORRY TO HAVE KEPT YOU WAITING, SHIRO-KUN!!

30 minutes later...

COME ON, DON'T BE STUBBORN!

W-WHAT A TROUBLE-SOME GUY~ A-AHAHA... HA...

SHOVE

PUSH

H-HERE, HAVE ONE!! IT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER!!

indifferent

.....

.....

OPEN

WELL ...

O-OKAY, I THINK IT'S BEST IF I START COOKING NOW~

←Ohagi

I ONLY BOUGHT *A FEW* INGRE-DIENTS...

SFX: BAM!!

I CAN ONLY MAKE SIMPLE DISHES, BUT...

fan fan fan

stir stir stir

CHOP CHOP CHOP

AND AS USUAL,

SFX: TADAAAA!!

DO FEEL FREE TO EAT AS MUCH AS YOU WANT!!

Cat Lover

But, all the food I made are Shiro-kun's favorites...!

UH...

Not only does he have zero appetite, the ohagi from earlier is still there!!

.....

I can't even cheer my friend up!

Cat Lover

I... I'm such a useless man!!

DASH

OFFI-CER!?

UAAA AHHH !!!

将中

ポンポ

御園台私立

WHY THE TROUBLED LOOK?

WA... WAKA-BAYA-SHI!!

EH?

WELL? IF IT ISN'T KOJIRO-KUN!

STOP

I APPRECIATE THE HOSTILI-TY-FILLED EXPLANATION.

YOU'RE AN ABSOLUTE BASTARD WHO KILLS ME AND MAKES SHIRO-KUN A SLAVE INSIDE YOUR BRAIN...

WAKABAYASHI KENICHI...!! ALSO CALLED THE NO.1 *DELUSIONAL KING* IN THE DEPART-MENT,

I'M BASICALLY STRAIGHT, SO NO MATTER WHAT I SAY ABOUT SHIRO-KUN, THEY ARE ALL PRODUCTS OF MY IMAGINATION AND NOTHING MORE.

I CAN'T LET YOU GET THE WRONG IDEA, KOJIRO-KUN.

cat

SO? WHAT'S TROUBLING YOU?

IS IT RELATED TO SHIRO-KUN? THE GUY WITH THE SLIM WAIST?

UGH. I AM *NEVER* TELLING *YOU.*

FLASH

OH, SO THAT'S HOW IT IS! WHAT A RELIEF~!! YOU JUST NONCHALANTLY SAID THE WORD "P*NIS", BUT THANK GOODNESS~!!

I MEAN, IF I ACTUALLY SEE A ***P*NIS*** I WILL DEFINITELY BACK OFF!

I NEVER THINK ABOUT DOING ANYTHING TO THE REAL HIM.

HM?

GRIP

RECENTLY, I'VE GOTTEN MYSELF A HIGH-QUALITY CAMERA, TOO.

THOUGH, I'M SURE A ***SPICY*** PHOTOBOOK OF HIM WOULD SELL FOR A HIGH PRICE, SO I'M PLANNING TO TAKE HIS PHOTOS SECRETLY.

!?

APPEAR

LET *ME* EXPLAIN THE DETAILS.

WHAT!?

A- ACTUALLY, I HAVE A WONDERFUL PLAN FOR SHIRO-KUN!

STRUGGLE

STRUGGLE

YOU CAN'T DEFINE "TAKING PHOTOS SECRETLY" AS BAD OR GOOD!

I WAS REFERRING TO A GOOD KIND OF "TAKING PHOTOS SECRETLY"!

H-HOLD ON! CAN'T WE POSTPONE MY ARREST!?

But I'm more surprised because she's been hiding in the bushes all this time!!

I'm surprised that Wakabayashi has such a glamorous sister!!

P-PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, I'M YAMADA KOJIRO.

WHAAAAAAT!?

NICE TO MEET YOU, I'M WAKABAYASHI RANKO.

KENICHI'S ELDER SISTER.

URMM... NO. NEVER IN MY WHOLE LIFE HAVE I DONE A GREETING LIKE THAT...

BY THE WAY, AS A GREETING, COULD YOU PLEASE SHOW ME YOUR *ABS*?

THE PLEASURE IS MINE, YAMADA-KUN.

WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH HER!!!

SO PLEASE GIVE ME THE LOIN-CLOTH YOU'RE WEARING RIGHT NOW.

AH, NO IT'S FIN--

AH... FORGIVE ME FOR SHAME-LESSLY TALKING ABOUT ABS.

I WILL REFLECT ON WHAT I'VE DONE.

*Bishonen: pretty boys

POINT

INTO A *STAR*!?

KOJIRO-KUN! DO YOU WANNA TRY TURNING YOUR FRIEND, SHIRO-KUN...

M-MA-NIAC!?

MY SISTER IS A BI-SHONEN MANIAC.

"MONTH-LY... BISHO-NEN" ...?

Monthly Bishonen

Toward the world of beauti-ful young men

LISTEN. THESE GUYS WANT TO INTRO-DUCE YOU TOGETHER WITH YOUR UMBRE-LLAS...

AND MAKE YOU POPULAR AS A B SHOUNEN ARTIST.

WHAT? BUT I DON'T WANT...

YEAH. THE MAGAZINE FEATURES ANYTHING RELATED TO PRETTY BOYS.

IT SEEMS LIKE THEY WANT TO HAVE YOU IN IT

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT THEM LIKE THEY'RE SOME PILE OF RUBBISH?

stare

BUT I GUESS PEOPLE WON'T MIND CALLING *THESE* WORKS OF ART...

SURE, THE UMBRELLAS YOU MAKE ARE PRAC-TICALLY GOOD-FOR-NOTHING UMBRELLAS.

BUT I THINK THIS IS A GOOD CHANCE TO SHOW THE WORLD YOUR UMBRELLAS.

RAISING YOUR POPU-LARITY AS AN ARTIST THROUGH A BISHONEN MAGAZINE MIGHT BE A QUESTION-ABLE METHOD,

IT'S BECAUSE I'VE SEEN MY FATHER THAT I UNDER-STAND...

Yayyy, salt—!!

Sart

What's today's meal?

SALT

BAM

YOU MAY THINK I'M WEIRD FOR SAYING THIS, BUT... MY FATHER IS AN UNPOPULAR BONSAI ARTIST, SO OF COURSE WE WERE REALLY POOR...

It was a heartfelt scream from a son who has a father with bad earnings!!

WHEN THEY COME AT YOU, GRASP THEIR HAIR RIGHT AWAY!!

THINK OF THE GOD OF CHANCE AS SOME-ONE WHO ONLY HAS HAIR ON THEIR FORE-HEAD!!

CLENCH

IN LIFE, CHANCES ARE VERY IMPOR-TANT!!

Note: The goddess of Opportunity, Fortuna, is said to have hair only on her forehead. So if we let her pass we won't be able to catch her anymore because she is bald behind.

VERY WELL... IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO FACE THE GLAMOROUS, BEAUTIFUL, SPECTACLED LADY EDITOR *(PROVIDED SHE SHUTS HER MOUTH)* AND TURN DOWN HER REQUEST...

SHOCKED

sigh

I DON'T WANT TO RISK MY DIGNITY AS A MAN BY AP-PEARING IN SOME CHEAP MAGAZINE LIKE THIS...

sigh

BUT I'M JUST AN UMBRELLA MAKER, NOT SOME ARTIST.

NICE TO MEET YOU, I'M WAKABAYASH KENICHI. MY SISTER JUST HEADED OUT FOR A BUSINESS TRIP...

NAH, THE INTERVIEW WILL BE DONE BY THE LADY'S YOUNGER BROTHER.

SPARKLE

SO? WHEN IS THE INTERVIEW?

This guy's dignity as a man is too cheap!!

I REFUSE ANY INTERVIEWS IF THE LOCATION IS NOT THE CLEAVAGE OF THE BEAUTIFUL, SPECTACLED LADY!!

STOMP

SHIROKUN!! YOUUU!! WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN!!

LIKE I'D EVER APPEAR IN THIS DAMN MAGAZINE.

THERE IS NO SUCH OPTION!! JUST WHAT WERE YOU EXPECTING FROM THE INTERVIEW!!

STOMP

What an obvious change of attitude!!

SPK: KOOSH!

LOOK! YOU'VE HURT WAKABAYASH!...

QUIT ACTING LIKE A SELFISH KID!

I'VE SET A GOAL OF BUILDING A PALACE FOR SECRET PHOTOGRAPHY, THAT'S ALL.

HE MAY BE CUTE, BUT HE HAS A P*NIS ATTACHED.

DON'T WORRY, KOJIRO-KUN.

W-WAKABAYASHI... YOU CAN'T BE...

I'VE JUST MADE IT MY GOAL TO ARREST YOU.

U-UP CLOSE HE IS JUST... SO CUTE...

Meanwhile, this guy is falling into a forbidden world!!

STIR

STIR

STIR

Y-YEAH, THAT WILL DO.

WELL, I GUESS FOR NOW I'LL JUST POUR YOU SOME TEA...

stand

SPLASH

Pour

GULP

THANK YOU.

But he drank it!!

He stirred the tea with his fingeeeer! He's definitely trying to insult Wakabayashi!!

SWING

HERE YOU GO.

SFX:=THONK

Ugh... Now he's seen the perverted nature of Wakabayashi.

A PERVERT.

He's gotta be...

This guy... He didn't even hesitate for a moment and drank the whole cup.

Sheesh... He's already chasing him out

NO "BUTS"! JUST LEAVE!

E-EH, BUT! PLEASE WAIT A MO-

PUSH PUSH

THAT'S IT! YOU'VE HAD YOUR TEA, NOW PLEASE LEAVE!

SHOCKED

A FAN OF YOUR UMBRELLAS.

TRUTH BE TOLD, I AM...

IT'S SUCH A PITY.

push

push

Aaargh!! I knew it wouldn't work...!!

I SAID I'M... A FAN OF YOUR UMBRELLAS.

. WAS THERE SOMETHING IN WHAT I SAID?

JUST NOW...

WHAT DID YOU...

NO..

AH...

ERM..

I MEAN..

.....!!!

...CAN YOU?

EH? J

smirk

I... I CAN SPARE A FEW MINUTES AND

fidget...

LISTEN TO WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY..

SO..

LET'S DO THIS ONE MORE TIME...

Nothing good will come out of this!!

For someone who's being terribly curt, he's taking the extra mile by serving him high-quality tea and the dagashi I bought!

Thank you

IT'S NOT LIKE I PARTI-CULARLY CARE ABOUT YOU, BUT HERE'S YOUR TEA.

HAVE SOME SWEETS, TOO, IF YOU WOULD.

CLINK

Wouldn't Shiro-kun be even weaker because he has never received any compliments until now?!

Ehh, really!?

BADUMP

I really like your Bonzai.

Once-in-a-lifetime fan

Artists are always weak against their fans!!

Since I've seen my father, I know where this is going!

If things turn out that way...

They'd end up asking that question to their fans.

BADUMP BADUMP

Umm...

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT MY WORK?

No, wait... To get rid of their own suspiciousness, unpopular artists would be really desperate to know what people think about their works...

Why so soon!! You're such a handful!

I GUESS YOU CAN TELL ME... WHAT PARTS OF MY UM-BRELLAS THAT YOU LIKE...

...SO? I DON'T REALY CARE, BUT...

Will Wakabayashi, who called himself a fan just to grab Shiro-kun's attention, be able to answer that!?

LET'S SEE...

LOOK!

HMM..

UM..

I LIKE THE UNIQUE DESIGNS AND THE VIVID COLORS.

AND IF YOU ACTUALLY HOLD ONE, IT'S SURPRISINGLY LIGHT.

WHICH MAKES IT EASY TO USE.

ALSO...

YOUR UMBRELLAS...

LIFT

BA-DUMP

BA-DUMP

EVEN HAVE HIDDEN DECORATIONS LIKE THIS.

I LIKE YOUR WORKS BECAUSE THEY'RE DETAILED.

.....!!

KYUUUN~

As expected from a man with a sister who works as an editor.

They really know how to handle artists!!

smirk

Per-- That reply was perfect!! Not only did he mention features that anyone can see like unique designs and vivid colors...

...but also found a part that Shiro-kun worked hard on without anyone knowing, and complimented it!!

N-NOT REA-LLY ...!!

BUT YOU KNOW, JUDGING FROM YOUR BOLD CREA-TIONS, YOU MUST BE A LOT MANLIER THAN YOUR APPEAREANCE SUGGESTS.

TURN

FU FU, I WAS ONLY TELLING THE TRUTH.

CuCu

blush

U-UMM... THANKS... I GUESS?

Oh no, Shiro-kun has been completely deceived...

OI OI, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!

I PERSONALLY THINK MANLY IS WHEN A MAN WEARS NOTHING BUT A PIECE OF LOINCLOTH

He's trying to play it cool in front of his fan..

HMPH!

BUT, WELL, YOU CAN SAY THAT.

I GUESS I'M KINDA MANLY AFTER ALL!

SHI-SHIRO-KUN, CALM DOWN! YOU'RE BE NG WEIRD!!

HAA? AIN'T I THE SAME AS USUAL...

NO! AND THAT DI-ALECT OF YOURS S WE RD!!

He changed into it immedi-ateee eely!!!

SPARKLE

'ES, I AGREE.

SNAP SNAP

WA-KA-BA-YA-SHI-SAN!

WAIT, NO, HOLD ON A MINUTE. THIS IS NOT A BAD KIND OF "TAKING PHO-TOS SECRETLY"...

tremble tremble

...AL-RIGHT, I'M ARREST-ING YOU.

I'M SO SORRY...!!

UNTIE

S-SHI-RO-KUN!?

EHH

STOP IT, OFFI-CER!!

WHOOSH

IT'S ALRIGHT, SHIRO-KUN... THANKS FOR SAVING ME. THAT WAS MANLY OF YOU...

N-NOT REA-LLY, I...

OF COUR-SE!!

blush

THE EPI-TOME OF MANLINESS HAS GOT TO BE ME!!

MANLY MEN EQUAL BEASTS!!

THIS THING THAT I HAPPENED TO HAVE WITH ME SEEMS REALLY MANLY, TOO~!!

PULL OUT

UWAA AA!!

WHY, OF COUR-SE!!

SNAP

SNAP

NO NO NO! THIS COS-TUME ISN'T SOMETH NG YOU ***JUST HAPPEN*** TO HAVE!!

OPEN YOUR EYES, SHIRO-KUN!!

ABOUT WHAT?

BUT I GUESS PEOPLE WHO PUT THEIR HEARTS INTO THEIR JOBS ARE MANLY, TOO!!

SFX: PULL OUT

THIS IS ANOTHER LEVEL OF MANLI-NESS~!!

I THINK THIS OUTFIT IS ALSO MANLY, BECAUSE IT HEALS THE HEARTS OF MANY PEOPLE IN THE SOCIETY!

SNAP

SNAP

PULL OUT

GUWAA!!

GAH

YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT!!

Hm

HITS

NEXT! TRY TAKING OFF YOUR SKIRT IN A REALLY MANLY MANNER!!

FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!

SLAP

HE'S JUST TRYING TO MAKE MONEY FROM SELLING YOUR PICTURES!

WAKA-BAYASHI-IS *NOT* YOUR FAN!!

SHIRO-KUN, TOO!! OPEN YOUR EYES ALREADY!

HOW COULD YOU SAY SUCH TERRIBLE THINGS!?

PLEASE DON'T BE RUDE TOWARD WAKA-BAYASHI-SAN!!

UGH.

But this is all my doing!!

SNAP

SNAP

Wakaba-yashi has completely driven Shiro-kun into mad-ness...

tremble

tremble

....Wha

SH-SHIRO-KUN...

I'M SORRY, SHIRO-KUN...!!

Is there... nothing else I can do?

I shouldn't have done that-- no matter how it would be for Shiro-kun's sake!!

Making Shiro-kun's umbrellas famous by using his appearance was a mistake.

BANG

OOPS.

OKAY, SHIRO-KUN, LET'S TAKE ANO-THER SHOT...

temble

temble

What can I do to save him from the evil hands of that bastard!?

SFX: GLOOOOM

ズ

ゴ

HUH?

SORRY, I THINK I BUMPED INTO SOME-THING.

SPILL

TA-DAH

T-those were...

the dishes I made earlier!

BUTTER

...WHO DO YOU THINK COOKED THOSE DISHES?

DOOOOM

MY PRECIOUS MEALS.

THOSE ARE

He spilled the beans out of fear...

I'M SORRY...

ALSO, I'M ACTUALLY NOT A FAN OF YOURS OR ANYTHING OF THE SORT.

.....

...AH

SHIRO-KUN!

grins

WELL, IT'S FINE! IT WAS SHORT, BUT I HAD A GOOD DREAM.

.....

WHAAAAT, IT'S JUST AS I THOUGHT, HUH.

SIGH

WOO HOO OO!!

SEX SLAM

...YOU THINK I WOULD SAY SOME-THING LIKE THAT!? YOU PIECE OF SH*T!!!

I KNOW YOU FEEL DISAP-POINTED.

I MEAN, HE DECEIVED YOU LIKE THAT...

I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THAT, SHIRO-KUN...

disappointed

CLANK

CLANK

IT'S FINE. THEY'RE TASTY.

CHOMP

CHOMP

AH-- HEY, HEY! YOU CAN'T EAT THEM! THEY WERE DROPPED ON THE FLOOR!

HUH?

THEN, WHY...

NOT REALLY.

I DON'T PARTICULARLY CARE ABOUT BEING DE-CEIVED OR ANYTHING.

CLANK

CLANK

COOKED BY ME?

DID YOU GET MAD BECAUSE THE DISHES THAT GOT KNOCKED OVER WERE...

WHO DO YOU THINK COOKED THOSE...

!!.....

Rush

!!!.....

HIT

OUC-

I'M SAYING THAT'S NOT IT, AL-RIGHT!?

I'LL MAKE MEALS FOR YOU ANY-TIME, YOU KNOW! YOU'RE SUCH AN IDIOT.

Aha ha

PAT PAT

N-NO!!

.....

MY BAD. HEH

I'LL BE ANGRY IF YOU CARRY ON, GET IT?

snuggle

O-OW!

I'M GLAD YOU GOT YOUR ENERGY BACK!!

GRAB

!

BUT

the thing it up

But since only the umbrella was published, Shiro didn't gain any new customers.

HE PUB-LISHED IT IN A SMALL CORNER OF THE MAGA-ZINE.

WHAT'S SURPRIS-ING IS THAT WAKABA-YASHI AC-TUALLY REALLY LIKES SHI-RO'S UM-BRELLA.

After that...

Even so, Shiro was quite happy!

END

Wrong. Waka-bayashi only did what-ever he wanted.

Waka-bayashi is surpris-ingly a good guy

kyuuun

LOVE SCANLATIONS
DEVIL CASTLE rows
YURI-P translator
LITOXPINKY editor
proofreader
MONN quality checker

...'ES...

WE HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS FOR YOU.

WE'RE THE POLICE. YOU MUST BE YOSHI-WARA SHIRO?

...'ES.

THAT'S RIGHT...

I HEARD YOU WERE HER CLOSE FRIEND, HM?

THIS WOMAN, URYU HI-KONO--

WELL, SHE WAS KILLED. SOMEONE DRUGGED HER.

DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT TO LET US HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SHARE?

HUH...?

The Twentieth Story

The Twentieth Story: Stories of Other People

SHE MUST'VE BEEN CHEATING ALL ALONG THEN!?

OH, I HEARD THE SAME THING! THEY SAID HER LOVER OWNS AN UMBRELLA SHOP!

WHAT A JOKE! THE URYU COUPLE WERE ALL OVER EACH OTHER!

WORSE STILL, I HEARD THE CULPRIT IS URYU-SAN'S YOUNGER LOVER!

WHO MIGHT BE RELATED TO THIS CASE.

THAT'S TRUE. APPARENTLY, THE POLICE ARE INTERROGATING PEOPLE...

WHAT DO THEY CALL IT-- THE CASE IS STILL "UNDER INVESTIGATION"!

STILL, THESE COULD ALL BE RUMORS, RIGHT?

THEIR OWN VERSION OF A STORY, AFTER ALL.

PEOPLE ALWAYS COME UP WITH

I DOUBT THE POLICE WILL EVEN FIND ANYTHING USEFUL.

HEH! INVESTIGATION, HUH.

TESTIMONY #1 :: HATSUE - A FRIEND OF HIKONO THE VICTIM

HIKO-NO-CHAN CHEAT-ED!? THAT'S ABSURD!

I'M HER CLOSE FRIEND AND I KNOW HOW INTIMATE SHE AND HER HUSBAND WERE!

HER HUSBAND, FUYUHARU-SAN, IS A NOVELIST AND A RATHER QUIET PERSON.

ON THE OTHER HAND, HIKO-NO-CHAN WAS...

PAINTING IS HIS HOBBY. YOU CAN TELL HE'S A VERY ARTISTIC MAN.

A RELI-ABLE AND CHARMING WOMAN.

THEY WERE A HAPPILY MARRIED COUPLE.

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THEM IN AN ARGU-MENT?

HMM... WE..L, LET'S SEE... IF I HAD TO MEN-TION ONE...

Whisper

IT SEEMS ..IKE FUYUHARU-SAN'S BOOKS SOLD VERY POORLY IN THE MARKET.

HE DID WRITE SOME NEW MANU-SCRIPTS, BUT HE COUL.DN'T GET THEM PUBL.ISHED.

I WONDER IF H!KONO-CHAN EVEN UNDER-STOOD THE SITUATION HER HUSBAND WAS IN...

I MEAN, SHE HAD THIS HABIT OF WASTING MONEY.

TESTIMONY #2 - THE OWNER OF AN ART MATERIALS SHOP

AH. URYU FUYUHARU-SAN IS A REGULAR AT OUR SHOP.

WATERCOLOR PAINTING IS HIS HOBBY, SO HE OFTEN COMES HERE TO PURCHASE PAINTING SUPPLIES.

I WAS SHOCKED WHEN I HEARD HE HAD KILLED SOMEONE.

I MOST CERTAINLY DO! HE LIVES IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

DO YOU KNOW A MAN NAMED YOSHIWARA SHIRO?

HE WAS FAMOUS FOR BEING A LADY-KILLER.

BUT I MUST SAY I KNEW IT'D BECOME LIKE THIS SOMEDAY.

ARE YOU SERIOUS!?

BESIDES, HE'S THE KIND OF GUY WHO WOULD GO AS FAR AS TO RAPE THE GIRL HE LIKES.

AND THAT GUY ONLY CREATES FUNNY-LOOKING UMBRELLAS!

HE CAN'T BE EARNING MUCH FROM SELLING THOSE.

YEAH. I SAW IT THE OTHER DAY...

EVERYONE SAYS HE'S A PARASITE WHO LIVES OFF WOMEN.

YOU CAN'T DO THIS, SHIRO-SAN. !!

STOP ..

clack

clack

When I walked passed a back alley...

QUIT JOKING, YOU.

DO YOU REALLY WANT ME TO STOP?

NO..

YANK

THAT MAKES ME WANT TO TEASE YOU MORE, H KONO-NEE-SAN.

IT S PRECISELY THAT FACE.

SHI-
RO-
SAN!

STOP
IT!

AH.

GRIP

AH-
HH.

.....

SH-
RO-
SAN
...!

...HE WAS SO FORCE-FUL-- IT WAS AS IF HE WANTED TO RAPE HER.

MY JAW DROPPED AT THE SIGHT.

THE WOMAN I SAW BACK THEN WAS THE DECEASED HIKONO-SAN, RIGHT?

I HEARD SHE DIED AFTER DRINKING A CUP OF TEA FROM YOSHI-WARA'S SHOP.

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS THAT YOSHI-WARA IS THE KILLER?

I HAD NO IDEA SHE WAS FUYUHARU-SAN'S WIFE...

HIKONO-SAN?

THE SUS-PECT :: YOSHI-WARA SHIRO

TRUE. I DID ATTACK HER.

...WAS I WRONG FOR DOING THAT?

BUT I WOULDN'T HAVE MADE A MOVE ON HER IF IT WASN'T CONSENSUAL BETWEEN US.

WELL.

'ES.

I GET YOUR POINT.

YOU MUST BE OUT OF YOUR MIND!!

YOU KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, DON'T YOU?

I'D CALL IT ACT-ING.

'ES.

THEY'RE ACTUALLY WILLING. IT'S JUST, THEIR LIPS ARE SAYING OTHERWISE.

CON-SEN-SU-AL?

OR ARE YOU JUST HOPELESSLY DENSE?

CAN'T YOU UNDER-STAND BY OBSERVING THEIR EYES AND LIPS?

HOW WOULD I, MORON!!

THAT'S ONLY YOUR PER-SONAL JUDG-MENT!!

IS IT?

WELL, DUH.

WHY CAN'T YOU WAIT UNTIL THEY SAY "YES", ANYWAY!? HUH, WHY!?

BE SERIOUS!! EVEN IF YOUR PARTNER IS WILLING, THE MOMENT THEY SAY "NO", YOU MUST STOP!!

BECAUSE I'M *HORNY*.

.....

I HAVE NEVER EVEN SOLD ANY TEA LEAVES TO HIKONO-NEESAN.

I DID NOT.

SO, DID YOU MIX POISON AMONG THE TEA LEAVES THAT YOU SOLD TO HER?

...THAT'S ENOUGH...

I STILL FIND IT A MYSTERY.

HOW DID THE TEA LEAVES FROM MY SHOP REACH HER HOUSE...

I GAVE THEM TO FUYU-HARU AS A GIFT WHEN I STOPPED BY.

I WAS THE ONE WHO BOUGHT THOSE LEAVES.

OH, THE TEA LEAVES FROM YOSHI-WARA'S SHOP?

TESTIMONY #3 :: MAT-SUMURA - FUYUHARU'S FRIEND :: A NOVELIST

HE HAS ALWAYS LOVED LITERATURE AND WAS AN EARNEST FELLA...

I'VE BEEN FRIENDS WITH HIM SINCE WE WERE STU-DENTS...

SO... BACK TO FUYU-HARU, ARE WE?

HERE, MR. POLICE-MAN, IS MY LATEST NOVEL. PLEASE READ IT.

If you don't mind

TAKE IT AS A TOKEN OF MY GREE-TING...

Title: A Woman's Twilight

HE'S BEEN FEELING DEPRESSED LATELY.

YOU DO KNOW HE'S IN A DIFFICULT STATE RIGHT NOW, DON'T YOU?

IT'S AN IMPOS-SIBLE STORY! IT LACKS A SENSE OF RE-ALITY.

BORING STUFF, FRANKLY SPEAKING.

HE TALKED ABOUT WANTING TO WRITE A WEIRD STORY ABOUT SOME EERIE TRIBE.

I DUNNO WHERE HE PICKED UP THAT STORY IN THE FIRST PLACE, BUT...

FUUH

THAT SERVES HIM JUST RIGHT, THOUGH.

THE SAME GOES FOR WRIT-ING.

THE BOTTOM LINE IS, THAT GUY'S SIMPLY NOT THAT SKILLFUL AT WRI-TING.

I BELIEVE A NOVEL MUST BE INTERESTING ENOUGH FOR PEOPLE TO CARE ABOUT IT.

THE SAME INGREDIENTS MAY TASTE BETTER IN THE HANDS OF A DIFFERENT COOK, YOU KNOW.

OH, WELL... HE DID ONCE EARN A NAME FROM WRITING PURE LITE-RATURE.

FUUU

BUT THE WORLD ISN'T A FRIENDLY PLACE.

NAH... I'M NOT SURE. I MEAN, FUYUHARU IS NOT AN INNOCENT GUY.

I SEE. I TAKE IT THAT FUYU-HARU-SAN'S NEW FRIEND BECOMES HIS MENTAL SUPPORT.

HE KEPT TELLING ME THAT HIS NEW FRIEND READS AND ACTUALLY LIKES HIS BOOKS.

BY THE WAY, HE SAID HE'D MADE A GOOD FRIEND RECENTLY. HE WAS SO HAPPY ABOUT IT.

QUICK-WITTED.

HE CAN BE...

EH!? YOU TWO WERE A COUPLE!?

WAS MY EX-GIRL-FRIEND,

HIS DECEASED WIFE, HIKONO,

MY, MY. FUYU-HARU-SAN, YOU'RE SUCH A SMOOTH-TALKER.

I'M NOT. I'M JUST TELLING YOU THE TRUTH.

WOW. I'M HAPPY FOR YOU, MA-CHAN. SHE'S A GORGEOUS LADY.

YEAH. I DECIDED TO INTRO-DUCE HER TO FUYU-HARU-- MY FRIEND.

...That's a load of bullshit", I told myself.

HE WRITES GOOD NOVELS.

HIKO NO-SAN.

I'M SURE MA-CHAN CAN MAKE YOU HAPPY.

sneer

...IT WAS OKAY

"Worth-less", was written on his face.

Hey

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT MY LATEST WORK?

I've always known, from his usual reaction,

that he never acknow-ledges my novels.

OH NO... I'LL GET WORRIED IF YOU SAY THOSE THINGS TO ME.

I THINK I'LL BE ALONE FOREVER. I DON'T EVEN HAVE THE BRAIN TO EARN A LIVING!

I'M SO JEALOUS OF MA-CHAN!

It was obvious that Fuyuharu was trying so hard to impress Hikawa...

I WAS SO CONFIDENT THAT AN AWFULLY PENNILESS NOVELIST LIKE HIM COULD NEVER DEFEAT ME.

BUT I UNDER-ESTIMATED HIM.

Looking at the situation, I noticed immediately that Fuyuharu had fallen in love with her.

He caught a terrible cold.

At the same time, Fuyuharu fell ill.

And so I didn't take him seriously.

Instead, I immersed myself in writing a huge project.

BY THE TIME I FINISHED MY NOVEL, FUYUHARU HAD SUCCES-SFULLY SNATCHED HIKONO'S HEART.

WHAT? BUT HOW DID HE DO THAT?

HE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING SMART, REALLY.

HE SIMPLY CLUNG TO HIKONO ON PURPOSE, USING HIS COLD AS AN EXCUSE...

WHILE I WAS AWAY WORKING ON MY PRO-JECT,

HE MADE HIS WAY AND STIRRED HIKONO'S FEELINGS.

HE NOTICED HIKONO'S HOBBY OF TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE...

I'LL GET WOR-RIED.

AND MADE GOOD USE OF THAT.

I'M SURE HE DIDN'T EVEN CATCH ANY COLD.

...HOW SHOULD I DESCRIBE HIM...

EXCEPT HIS NOVELS, OF COURSE.

HE KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT TO DO TO ACHIEVE WHAT HE WANTS.

HE'S A GUY WHO LIVES BY CALCULATING EVERYTHING.

BY THE WAY, HIKONO OWED A HUGE AMOUNT OF MONEY TO HER BIOLOGICAL SISTER.

DID I HATE HER? NAW. NO HARD FEELINGS AGAINST HER.

IT WASN'T ME WHO POISONED HER.

IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME, THOUGH.

SHE WAS A STUNNING WOMAN, UNLIKE ME...

YES... I DID LEND MY LITTLE SISTER SOME MONEY.

TESTIMONY #4 :: THE VICTIM'S SISTER

A MALE PROSTITUTE! OR SO THE RUMORS SAY.

BECAUSE THAT BOY IS ACTUALLY...

AND I THINK THE STORY ABOUT MY SISTER CHEATING ON HER HUSBAND WITH THE UMBRELLA SHOP OWNER IS FALSE.

AND TO MEN IN THE EVENING.

HE SELLS HIS BODY TO WOMEN IN THE AFTERNOON...

APPARENTLY THAT MAN IS THE BOY'S PATRON ...

I'VE HEARD PEOPLE GOSSIPING ABOUT THEM.

THAT'S NOT ALL. EVERY NIGHT A CERTAIN MAN COMES TO SPEND THE NIGHT AT HIS HOUSE.

IT MAKES YOU THINK THAT THE RUMORS AREN'T ENTIRELY GROUND-LESS, RIGHT?

JUST LOOK AT THAT FACE OF HIS!

SHE WAS KILLED BY HER OWN HUSBAND-- FUYUHARU.

I, FOR ONE, AM VERY SURE THAT

THAT'S REALLY SICK OF HIM

HIS LOVER WAS HATSUE, MY SISTER'S FRIEND.

WAS HIM.

THE UNFAITHFUL ONE AMONG THEM

EVEN RECENT-LY...

MY SISTER OFTEN CAME TO ME TO TALK.

HIKO-NO—

THAT MAN KEEPS BLAMING ME, SAYING IT'S MY FAULT HIS NOVELS ARE NOT SELLING WELL---!!

NEE-SAN! I THINK I'M GOING CRAZY

HE ALWAYS HURTS ME WITH SUCH CRUEL WORDS

WHO CAN WRITE A GOOD NOVEL WHEN THEY'RE AROUND AN IDIOT WHO DOESN'T EVEN UNDERSTAND WHAT LITERATURE IS.

IT'S BECAUSE I'M WITH YOU THAT I DON'T FEEL ANY MOTIVATION TO WRITE

SURELY HE HAD PLENTY OF CHANCES TO DO IT.

...FUYUHARU MUST BE THE ONE WHO PUT POISON INTO MY SISTER'S TEA.

HIKO-NO

??

HE WASN'T LIKE THIS

LIES? WHY WOULD SHE LIE?

THOSE MUST BE LIES THAT MY WIFE TOLD!

ABSOLUTELY OUTRAGEOUS!

I POISONED HER!? I CHEATED ON HER!?

TESTIMONY #5 :: THE VICTIM'S HUSBAND - FUYUHARU

MY WIFE WAS A HABITUAL LIAR.

...THE TRUTH IS...

...DARLING, HEAR ME OUT!

WHEN SHE NEEDED ATTENTION OR SOME COMPANY.

SHE WOULD UTTER OBVIOUS LIES

I must have a word or two with the lady next door...

At first, I did pay serious attention to her stories.

CLACK

CLACK

WHAT?

TODAY, THE LADY NEXT DOOR PUSHED ME DOWN AND I SPRAINED MY LEG.

giggle

giggle

SHE'S BEEN BAD-MOUTHING ME AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD TOO...

giggle giggle

AND HER LEG IS FINE...!

!

IT SURE DOES LOOK LIKE THEY'RE FRIENDS ...?

HUH?

BUT I NEVER THOUGHT THAT SHE WOULD EVEN LIE ABOUT ME...

THIS IS SHOCK-ING.

SHE PROB-ABLY JUST WANTED ME TO CARE AND WORRY ABOUT HER...

Yet she kept repeating the same thing...

? ?

I WONDER WHICH TESTI-MONY TO TRUST...

I GIVE UP. OPINIONS ON THIS COUPLE VARY AMONG PEOPLE RELATED TO THEM.

MAN! I DON'T KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOING TO AT THIS RATE!

WELL... THERE'S A REASON WHY IT'S HARD TO SUMMA-RIZE THOSE TESTI-MONIES.

AND THAT WOULD BE?

MASSAGE

PRESS

THIS IS SUCH A PAIN...

HAS EVERY MOTIVE TO COMMIT THE CRIME...

BASED ON THE CURRENT SITUATION, EVERYONE EXCEPT THE ART-SHOP OWNER

AND DIFFERENT PEOPLE MAY HAVE DIFFERENT IDEAS ABOUT EACH FACET.

A SINGLE PERSON CAN POSSESS A MULTITUDE OF FACETS.

AN ANNOYING ***WEIRDO.***

A ***WEIRD*** CO-WORK-ER.

A ***WEIRD*** SENIOR.

YOU'RE A RELI-ABLE BUT ***WEIRD*** SENIOR.

FOR INSTANCE, WHAT DO YOU GUYS THINK ABOUT ME?

I THINK YOUR COM-MENTS WILL ALL BE A BIT DIFFE-RENT.

CREAK
CREAK

CAN'T WE JUST FOLLOW OUR INTUITION?

ARGH! THIS IS GOING TO BE TROUBLESOME! HOW ARE WE GOING TO VERIFY WHICH TESTIMONIES ARE TRUE!?

PLEASE DON'T SULK...

"...SEE?" WHAT? EVERYONE HERE AGREES THAT YOU'RE A WEIRDO.

...SEE?

IF WE FOLLOW OUR INTUITION, THEN CHARACTER-WISE YOU ARE THE MOST SUSPICIOUS!!

YOU'RE STILL SUSPECTING ME?

WHA--!?

FOR THE SECOND TIME, THE SUSPECT - YOSHIWARA SHIRO

WHAT DID YOU SAY!?

SHE NEVER TOLD ME SHE WAS MARRIED.

"CHARACTER-WISE", EH...

SEE, I APPROACHED HIKONO-SAN WITHOUT KNOWING THAT SHE HAD A HUSBAND.

THAT STATE-MENT ITSELF IS DOUBTFUL. MANY PEOPLE SAY SOME NASTY STUFF ABOUT YOU!

SO-ME EVEN CALL YOU A MALE PROS TI-TUTE.

AHA! I MUST SAY THAT ONE IS FALSE THOUGH.

PLEASE STOP MAKING JUDG-MENTS BASED ON MERE RUMORS.

SUSPECT ME AGAIN AFTER YOU FINISH TALKING TO MORE PEOPLE WHO KNOW THE COUPLE.

NIP.

IT WAS A LIE WHEN YOU SAID YOU'D NEVER SOLD ANY TEA LEAVES TO HIKONO, RIGHT?

YOU DID GIVE HER THE TEA LEAVES, DIDN'T YOU?

CEH... MORE FALSE ACCU-SATIONS.

NAH. YOU ARE SUS-PICI-OUS...

TESTIMONY #6 - A MUTUAL FRIEND OF HIKONO AND FUYUHARU

ERR...

IT'S TRUE THAT HIKONO-CHAN WAS A HABITUAL LIAR.

I KNOW THAT, TOO.

HAD A FEELING THAT AN INCIDENT LIKE THIS WOULD HAPPEN.

...AND ... HONESTLY, I ALREADY...

IT'S UNFORGIVABLE UNFORGIVABLE.. NO

I CLEARLY HEARD HIM REPEATING HIMSELF.

FUYUHARU-SAN FOUND OUT ABOUT HIKONO-CHAN'S AFFAIR WITH THE UMBRELLA-SHOP GUY...

AND WAS DEEPLY HURT.

YES... HE LIKES PAINTING...

IMPULSIVELY BUYING PAINTING MATERIALS!?

YEAH... BUT, STILL... BUYING THOSE ON AN IMPULSE!

PERHAPS IT WAS DUE TO THAT REVELATION THAT HE IMPULSIVELY BOUGHT TONS OF PAINTING MATERIALS. HE TOLD ME THAT.

AND ASKED FOR PERMISSION TO BORROW THE LIST OF MATERIALS THAT FUYUHARU-SAN BOUGHT IN LARGE QUANTITY.

WE WENT TO THE ART MATERIALS SHOP

...SO.

AH... I GET IT NOW.

NO... THEY SAY WATERCOLOR PAINTING IS HIS HOBBY. SO WHY DID HE BUY ONLY ONE PAINT FOR OIL PAINTING?

NOTHING SUSPICIOUS...

On paper:
July 23rd :: Watercolor painting materials :: Scarlet :: Earth :: Ultramarine :: Deep green :: Brown :: Light blue :: Purple

七月二十三日
水彩絵具
朱色
黄土
群青
深緑
茶色
薄水
紫

BLUE, RED, SCARLET, LIME GREEN, EARTH, BROWN, ULTRAMARINE PAINTS FOR WATERCOLORING AND...

YELLOW PAINT FOR OIL PAINTING.

SHALL WE ARREST FUYUHARU?

YELLOW PAINT FOR OIL PAINTING CONTAINS A DEADLY POISON.

IT WAS AS SIMPLE AS THAT!

I LOVED MY WIFE!

CLAMOR

CLAMOR

I...!

I...!

THAT WAS WHY I COULDN'T FORGIVE HER BE-TRAYAL...!

...The next day.

Top right: Fairoku Newspaper

FLAP...

大緑新聞

小説家、妻ヲ毒殺

THE ARTICLE ABOUT FUYU-HARU-SAN'S INCIDENT HAS TAKEN UP QUITE A LARGE SPACE.

Top left: What tragedy!! Bottom: A novelist murdered his wife with poison.

YEAH. AN UNSUCCESSFUL NOVELIST WAS BETRAYED BY HIS BEAUTIFUL WIFE.

AND BECAUSE HE LOVED HER SO MUCH, HE KILLED HER.

IT'S A KIND OF INCIDENT THAT PEOPLE TEND TO LIKE, AFTER ALL.

'ES.

EVEN AT THE TIME OF HIS ARREST, HE SHOUTED HOW MUCH HE'D LOVED HER. IT IS AN EASILY ACCEPTED STORY.

...

...BUT YOU MUST'VE HAD IT ROUGH, TOO...

I AM... SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT THAT WOMAN...

THE INCIDENT HAS BEEN COMPLETELY ROMANTICIZED...

LOOK, THIS HEADLINE EVEN READS, "THE TRAGEDY OF A NOVELIST'S PURE LOVE".

I NEVER IMAGINED THAT SHE WAS SOMEONE'S WIFE AND THAT EVERYTHING WOULD LEAD TO HER MURDER...

I THINK SHE JUST WANTED TO PLAY WITH FIRE FOR A WHILE.

SERIOUS ABOUT ME.

HIKONO-SAN WAS NEVER

THEY TOLD ME THEY NEEDED PROOF TO STATE OTHERWISE...

I TRIED CONVINCING EVERYONE, COUNTLESS TIMES, THAT YOU COULDN'T BE THE CULPRIT, BUT...

THEY EVEN TREATED YOU LIKE A CRIMINAL.

YOU CAN'T BE BLAMED FOR FEELING DOWN...

BUT I WASN'T WORRIED! NOT EVEN A BIT!

BECAUSE...

HAHA

I'M JUST REAPING WHAT I SOW.

WELL... THAT MUST'VE BEEN THEIR ONLY OPTION, CONSIDERING I HAVE BAD REPUTATION.

I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED IN YOU!!

...THAT ASIDE,

THE FRIEND WHO'D BEEN READING FUYUHARU-SAN'S NOVELS WAS ME.

EH!?

YOU THINK SO?

...OFFICER, IT AMAZES ME HOW YOU CAN ACTUALLY SAY IT WITH A STRAIGHT FACE.

SHIRO-KUN! I BROUGHT YOU A MA-NUSCRIPT!

I WAS VERY INTERESTED IN HIS NOVELS, SO HE BROUGHT ONE OF HIS MANUSCRIPTS TO MY HOUSE AND I READ IT.

STAND

YOU...! YOU WERE FRIENDS WITH BOTH HIKONO-SAN AND FUYU-HARU-SAN!?

'ES.

.. I SEE ..

THOUGH, WELL, THIS ONE WAS REJECTED BY THE PUBLISHERS, TOO

BUT THIS STORY IS MY BEST, MY MASTER-PIECE...

IT'S PAIN-FUL.. BE NG REJECT-ED AGA N.

sigh

BUT... LOOK AT ME.

THERE WAS A T ME WHEN I WAS CALLED "A NEW STAR N PURE LITERATURE" AND I HAD MANY PUBL SHERS TRY NG TO IMPRESS ME.

GUESS IT'S NOW THE R TURN TO MAKE FUN OF ME

CRUMPLE

IN MY HEAD I USED TO MAKE FUN OF POPULAR FICTION NOVEL STS.

...He was very happy.

YOU'RE EXAGGE-RATING.

Oh, come on

GLOMP

THANK YOU, SHIRO-KUN!!

PLEASE LET ME READ IT

I WANT TO READ IT.

RUSTLE

YOU'RE THE ONLY FRIEND WHO UNDER-STANDS MY WRITINGS.

SHIRO-KUN...

A FEW DAYS BEFORE HE COM-MITTED THE MURDER, HE TOLD ME...

AND THEN...

A TRANS-PARENT AND NOBLE EXISTENCE.

TO ME, YOU ALONE ARE

MY WIFE.

THE WOMAN NAMED HIKONO WHO HAS BEEN VISITING YOUR PLACE IS

I'LL BE HONEST

YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG!

THIS IS NOT MY FIRST TIME HAVING HER CHEAT ON ME.

IT'S FINE!!

BESIDES, HIKONO-NEESAN ISN'T SERIOUS AB—

I- I HAD NO IDEA!

EH?

THAT INFIDEL WOMAN

FOR GETTING CLOSE TO YOU!

I CAN'T FORGIVE

IT'S JUST THAT

HAVING YOU CONTA-MINATED BY HER!

I CAN NEVER BEAR THE THOUGHT OF

BUT BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT HER TO SULLY YOU, THE ONLY PERSON WHO UNDERSTANDS HIS NOVELS!?

...DOES THAT MEAN, FUYUHARU-SAN KILLED HIS WIFE *NOT* BECAUSE HE LOVED HER,

THOUGH, WELL, IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE TO FIND WHAT HIS REAL MOTIVES WERE...

...I DON'T KNOW.

THAT DAY I DID TELL HIM THAT I WOULD BREAK IT OFF WITH HIKONO-NEESAN...

BUT HE KILLED HER IN THE END.

On paper: New stocks available

CLAMOR

CLAMOR

COME AND BUY! COME AND BUY!

THE NOVELS WRITTEN BY URYU FUYU-HARU, THE NOVELIST WHO

SUF-FERED FROM A TRAGIC, PURE LOVE AND KILLED HIS OWN WIFE!

Two months later ...

ALL OF HIS OLDER NOVELS ARE HERE, TOO!

HIS LATEST MANUSCRIPT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED!

aThe title of the book: A boy of a certain tribe

I HEARD HIS OTHER LESS-POPULAR NOVELS HAVE ALSO BEEN REPRINTED.

...THIS IS AMAZING. THE MANU-SCRIPT ONCE REJECTED BY THE PUBLI-SHERS IS NOW A BOOK...

NO WONDER EACH BOOK SELLS WELL REGARDLESS OF THE CONTENT.

THE WRITER IS A MURDERER WHO BECAME THE TOPIC OF THE TOWN.

HE KNOWS WHAT TO DO TO GET WHAT HE WANTS.

HE LIVES BY CALCULATING EVERYTHING.

HE'S A QUICK-WITTED MAN

HE COULD NOT HAVE ...

HE WISHED FOR THIS SO BADLY.

HE REALLY WANTED THIS LATEST MANUSCRIPT OF HIS TO BE PUBLISHED.

COULD HE...!?

KILLED SOMEONE

JUST TO HAVE THIS BOOK PUBLISHED ...

DID HE DO THAT TO LEAVE A HINT...!?

IT WAS TOO UNNATURAL.

THAT HE'D BOUGHT A LOT OF PAINTING MATERIALS ON IMPULSE ...!?

IF I THINK ABOUT IT AGAIN, WHY DID HE DELIBERATELY TELL HIS FRIEND

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO UNDERSTANDS MY WRITINGS!

THE ONLY ONE..!

SHO-KUN.

What exactly goes through the boy's mind?

...I WONDER IF FUYUHARU-SAN'S TRUE MOTIVES,

AS WELL AS THE DEEPEST PART OF HIS HEART...

BY OTHER PEOPLE...?

ARE THINGS THAT CAN BE ACCURATELY MEASURED

SOMETIMES, ONE CAN'T EVEN UNDERSTAND ONE'S OWN HEART...

FORGET ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S HEARTS.

AW, COME ON... NOT YOU TOO! STOP BEING CURIOUS ABOUT EVERY-THING...

OI, KOJIRO! HAVE YOU READ IT!? THE BOOK WRITTEN BY THAT CRIMINAL!

The next day

LEMME HEAR WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT IT.

APPARENTLY THE WRITER HEARD THIS TRUE STORY THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE.

Oh. It's the manuscript that Shiro-kun read and was finally published as a book...

THIS IS THAT CRIMINAL'S NEWEST BOOK.

On book: A boy of a certain tribe

IT'S A STORY PASSED DOWN FROM A LONG TIME AGO ABOUT A CERTAIN TRIBE.

THEY ARE FAR STRONGER AND SMARTER THAN NORMAL PEOPLE.

SOME OF THEM EVEN POSSES VERY SPECIAL ABILITIES.

HOWEVER, THERE *IS* A CERTAIN METHOD TO LIVE LONGER.

THEY CAN ONLY LIVE FOR A PRETTY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME THOUGH, ABOUT 20 YEARS...

A SPECIAL BOY WILL BE BORN.

EVERY SEVERAL DECADES,

THE ONLY WAY TO LIVE LONGER IS TO CONSUME THE BOY'S BLOOD AND FLESH.

HE MUST NOT BE CONSUMED ALL AT ONCE.

SINCE THE BOY IS A PRECIOUS MEDICINE TO PROLONG LIFE...

THE BOY SHALL BE CONFINED

AND BARELY KEPT ALIVE

WHILE HIS BLOOD AND FLESH

ARE DRAINED, BIT BY BIT, AND SHARED AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THE TRIBE.

...THEY CAN PROLONG THEIR LIFE-SPAN THAT WAY?

SUPPOSEDLY YES. AND, THE BOY CAN DO MORE THAN JUST THAT.

WHEN CERTAIN CONDITIONS ARE MET...

THE BOY CAN DESTROY THE WHOLE TRIBE.

BUT, THAT "SPECIAL BOY" HAS ESCAPED

AND IS NOW ON THE RUN.

IT IS SAID THAT HE IS...

MORON! IT'S A MADE-UP STORY! WHAT ELSE CAN IT BE!?

YOU CAN'T SAY FOR SURE.

AND THEN, THE WRITER WON-DERS...

WHAT COULD BE...

A BEAUTI-FUL BOY WHO HIDES A DEMON INSIDE HIM

AND CHARMS BOTH WOMEN AND MEN.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

What exactly goes through the boy's mind?

INSIDE THE BOY'S MIND?

HE MAY BE EXPOSING THE ENTIRE TRIBE--HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE-- TO A DANGER CALLED DEATH.

BUT NOW THAT HE'S FLED,

I'M SURE HE LOATHES THE IDEA OF BEING CONFINED AND FORCED TO SPEND HIS DAYS HALF-ALIVE.

THOSE WHO ARE DEAR TO HIM IN THE TRIBE.

MOREOVER, THERE MUST BE

I BET IT'S SOMETHING NORMAL PEOPLE CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO IMAGINE.

I WONDER HOW THAT CHILD FEELS INSIDE?

A boy who hides a demon inside him...

...SOMETHING NORMAL PEOPLE CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO IMAGINE

...CHARMS BOTH WOMEN AND MEN

....

NO... WAY...

END

LOVE SCANLATIONS
DEVIL CASTLE raws
MONN translator
LITOXPINKY editor
[illegible]NTEDNIGHT'S proofreader
MONN quality checker

MYSTERIOUS ONE-PAGE MANGA: [R]

LET LS SEE WHAT I CAN DO TO SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS.

I AM R, THE FORTUNE-TELLER. I AM HERE TO SAVE TROUBLED AND LOST SOULS.

I SEE.. I CAN IMAGINE THE FUNDOSHI TYING YOU TIGHTLY...

THERE'S A MACHO GUY WHO CONS-TANTLY TRIES TO FORCE ME INTO WEARING A FUNDOSHI ...

AH, THAT MUST BE HARD TO BEAR...

CATS... HATE ME.

YOU HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO ME THAT YOUR BROTHER COMPLEX IS BEYOND HELP.

Gross sobbing

STILL, IT'S NOT LIKE I HATE HIM FOR BEING REBELLIOUS, YOU KNOW?

sob sob

MY YOUNGER BROTHER IS BEING REBELLIOUS! I MEAN, WE USED TO HAVE FUN TOGETHER AND FLIRT UNTIL IT WAS BORDERLINE DANGEROUS...

It was HER (Wakaba-yashi's sister) all along!?

I don't mind doing it, though

Woosh

VERY WELL, GUYS! PLAY LOTION SUMO* AND ALL OF YOUR PROBLEMS WILL BE SOLVED!! NOW ***STRIP!!***

* Lotion Sumo requires people to smear lotion on their bodies before wrestling, making their bodies slippery, thus increasing the difficulty

EXTRA MANGA
~ADEKAN COMPANY~

North Group Company C

Adekan Company Catalogue

The Adekan Company once dominated the industry with their fashionable fudonshi.

But recently, the North Group Company, a growing company with a similar style, has been giving them a hard time!!

Senpai→

North Group Company Catalogue

I'M PRETTY SURE THAT WAS SENPA'S DES GN, R.GHT...?

YOU'RE RIGHT. THIS FUNDOSHI WITH AN ATTACHED CAT TAIL IS EXACTLY WHAT WE CAME UP WITH TWO YEARS AGO!!

THE NORTH GROUP COMPANY HAS REALLY DONE IT.

THESE ARE ALL RIP-OFFS OF OUR PRODUCTS!

North Group Company Catalogue

THEM TAKING THIS HOT-SELLING ITEM OF OURS IS MAKING MY HEAD ACHE.

IS UNISEX AND APPLICABLE TO A WIDE RANGE OF CUSTOMERS.

YEAH. THE TAIL FUNDONSHI

tail

I AGREE!

OF COURSE!!

WELL SAID, YOSHI-WARA-KUN!!

RESENTING THESE GUYS WILL GET US NOWHERE.

LET US AIM EVEN HIGHER!

WELL, LOOKS LIKE DESIGN COPYRIGHT IS A RARITY IN THIS INDUSTRY.

drops

THEN WE'LL ADD ZEBRA PATTERN ONTO THIS CLOTH ...

NO, THE BASIC OF A FUNDOSHI IS ITS BREATH-ABILITY!! WITHOUT IT, THE FUNDOSHI WILL LOSE ITS PURPOSE!!

HOW ABOUT A FUNDONSHI MADE OF FUR?

YES!!

BUCKLE UP GUYS! WE'RE MAKING NEW PRODUCTS!!

YOU'RE RIGHT, PRES...

THE YOUNGSTERS IN MY COMPANY HAVE GROWN INTO SUCH STRONG MEN...

ALRIGHT, KOJIRO!! REVEAL TO US THE SECRET RECIPE YOU USED WHEN YOU DESIGNED THE 'TAIL FUDONSHI'!!

Such a fiery collision of ideas!!

These guys are the cream of the crop in my company!!

OOH, I SEE! I CAN TOTALLY RELATE TO THAT!

BUT WE'VE ALREADY USED THE TAIL DES-GN, SO THE NEW PRODUCT MUST BE GODAWESOME OR E-SE.

THAT'S WHAT I HAD IN MIND WHEN I DES-GNED IT!

YESS R! ALL I DID WAS IMAGINE A FUNDOSHI THAT WOULD LOOK GOOD ON A HOT GIRL!!

Serious

BACK

FRONT

All in One Fundoshi For Women

HOW ABOUT THIS?

PERHAPS IT'S TIME FOR ME TO CHANGE CAREER...

END

W-what is this. My tears are !!

Mine too !!

GODAWE-SOME!!!

ACT.2

Adekan Company

I KNOW RIGHT? SUCH A LETDOWN DOES NOTHING BUT DECREASE OUR MORALE

WHY MUST OUR COMPANY BAN OFFICE ROMANCE...

BUT I AM A FOREIGNER-

Morning ♥

AND NIIYA, YOU'RE REALLY PISSING ME OFF. YOU TREAT THE STATUS OF BEING A FOREIGNER AS A PRIVILEGE AND DO THINGS LIKE HUGGING THE LADIES.

EXACTLY. EVEN A QUICK PECK IS ENOUGH TO IGNITE RO-MANCE (FOR ME).

IN JAPANESE THAT'S CALLED COURTSHIP, DAMN IT!

Come to the rooftop during break time ♥

I JUST WANT TO TRY EXPE-RIENCING THE "IN A PILE OF DOCUMENTS A FEMALE COLLEAGUE PASSED TO ME, THERE'S A MEMO ASKING ME OUT" THING...

BEING BANNED FROM HAVING OFFICE ROMANCE MAKES MY LIFE AS A WORKING ADULT COM-PLETELY POINTLESS!

YOUR DELUSION IS TOO SPECIFIC, YOU SHOULD BE EMBAR-RASSED...

UKUKU ♥

HONESTLY, *WHAT* DID YOU HOPE TO ACCOM-PLISH BY BECOMING ONE..?

COME ON, GUYS, YOU SHOULDN'T BE HAVING THIS CONVERSATION.

I WANT FIND THE GIRL WAITING FOR ME HALFWAY OUTSIDE THE OFFICE ON A DAY WE LEAVE WORK SEPARATELY.

HAVEN'T YOU BEEN DOING THAT ALREADY?

I WANT TO HAVE A SECRET DATE IN THE REFERENCE ROOM.

WELL, I WOULD ***LOVE*** TO HAVE AN *OL UNIFORM ROLEPLAY!

*OL = Office Lady

Ahh~ you guys have no shame, huh

BUT, SIR, OFFICE ROMANCE INCLUDES ADULTERY AFFAIRS, TOO. IT'S REALLY SOMETHING EVEN OLD GEEZERS CAN BE A PART OF.

IT'S BECAUSE ALL YOU GUYS THINK ABOUT ARE THOSE SHALLOW DELUSIONS, THAT ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP IS BANNED IN THE COMPANY.

INDEED!!

END

THAT'S EVERYONE'S FANTASY!!

AFTERWORDS

YOU GUYS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO GET THIS FAR. READERS, REALLY, THANK YOU SO MUCH!!

Who knows.

What's with this person

Come on, you guys, say your thanks, too.

ADEKAN HAS FINALLY REACHED ITS 7TH VOLUME.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR READING THIS BOOK.

Greeting together with the cat.

GOOD AFTERNOON, THIS IS NAO TSUKIJI SPEAKING.

Meow

STARTING FROM ALL THE VOICE ACTORS, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO WAS RELATED WITH THE PRODUCTION.

Content:
'The Mermaid's Desire'
'Benefactor'
'The Story of Anri and Panda'

Shiro: Jun Fukuyama
Koujirou: Tomoaki Maeno
Anri: Takahiro Sakurai

NEXT, THE THIRD VOLUME OF ADEKAN'S CD DRAMA WILL BE RELEASED IN DECEMBER 2013!

THE START TO THE THREE MAIN CHARACTERS' FATE WAS THE MAIN THEME OF 'WHEN I PEEK INTO HIS DEPTHS' CHAPTERS AND THE MURDER-CASE CHAPTER 'A TALE OF OTHER PEOPLE'.

IN THIS VO-LUME,

GOING BACK TO TALKING ABOUT THE MANGA ...

I never thought that they would be doing 'The Story of Anri and Panda'...

AS THE PLOT OF THE STORY FLOWED AND EXPANDED, THE CONTENT OF THE CD DRAMA GOT RICHER AND RICHER.

laugh

Hmm... How do I do this~

IT WAS TOUGH...

'A TALE OF OTHER PEOPLE' WAS MY FIRST TIME DRAWING HEAVILY DIALOGUE-BASED MANGA.

This guy has just naturally mastered a super whiplash skill.

HE'S ALSO AN IMPORTANT CHARACTER IN ADEKAN.

IN 'WHEN I PEEK INTO~', I MANAGED TO DRAW A LOT OF HARUZUMI'S BACKGROUND DETAILS JUST AS I'D ALWAYS WANTED TO.

such as him

THERE SURE ARE A LOT OF OTHER CHARACTERS THAT HAVEN'T GOTTEN THEIR SPOTLIGHT.

Please take good care of us siblings!!

WAKABAYASHI, AS REQUESTED BY MANY READERS, MADE HIS APPEARANCE THIS TIME. I'M REALLY HAPPY ABOUT THAT.

I'LL BE DRAWING MORE CHAPTERS INVOLVING CRIMINAL CASES ALIKE. PLEASE CONTINUE TO LOOK FORWARD TO THE STORY.

WE'RE VENTURING INTO THE UNDERGROUND FOR REAL...

STARTING FROM THE NEXT VOLUME, IPPEI WILL BE TAKING ACTIONS BEHIND THE SCENES, TOO.

Thank you for sending me letters of encouragement!!

I love you all!! <3

They are my source of motivation

L.O.V.E. SCANLATIONS
lovescanlations.wordpress.com
DEVIL CASTLE raws
YURI-P translator
VARE cleaner
ENCHANTEDNIGHTS proofreader
SELVA3BD typesetter
MONN quality checker